



# The British Connection

## Message from the ABCC Club President



"Pale Primrose" - 1974 MGB roadster, owned by Doug and Linda Rothwell.

Taken at Timeless Wings & Wheels British Car Show at New Smyrna Beach Airport, October, 2010.

*March* greetings to you. February was a nice month as far as rain went. We had some nice events, made possible by a lack of rain. Of course, our landscape was left wanting, and the threat from wildfires looms even as I type this. We still have a couple more months until our rainy season begins.

Thanks to all of you who participated in our 3 events in February. I hope these are the sort of activities that you like, if not, please let me know. This is your club. We have 3 events scheduled for this month, see the articles further in the newsletter. Editor Gene and Mike are taking a trip in the future, while others of you are already out of state, or making plans to leave. One member is recently engaged, so look for an announcement in the future.

### March Events

#### Lunch Bunch on the River

The Lunch Bunch dined at 1 p.m. on the Tomoka River Wednesday, March 2 at the River Grille on the Tomoka for some "Cracker-style dining." If you enjoy good seafood, go on down and try their menu some time. They also have a good daily special if you don't prefer seafood, but want a delightful river view while dining. There were 16 members enjoying good food and fellowship. If you missed it last year, here's a second chance. Do you sometimes get tired eating the same old cold boring soggy bowl of cereal every morning for your



#### CLUB OFFICERS

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



(continued from the President)

Club membership is at 48 as of the beginning of March. If you haven't paid your dues yet, please send them to Treasurer Steve Bradley. Welcome new members Ken and Deanna DeLeeuw, Allan and Lois Wright, and Don Cronk. Allan's TR6 is newly painted, and Ken has done some amazing changes to his 2 MGBs. Ask to look under his bonnet the next time you see him. Great news: Bob Storke got his TR8 to crank. Once. Then it wouldn't start again. Bob says he loves working on his TR8, and can't wait for something else to go wrong. Ed Kufeldt discovered that his battery drain was due to a faulty boot light switch, and all is well now that it is repaired.

I am keeping the club web page up to date, with the expert assistance of Webmaster Scott Keating. Be sure to check the calendar for any updates, as some events have been added and other events have had a date or time change.

If you ordered magnetic name badges from me, I have them, but you might need to remind me. Bob Storke will have a new batch of club hats available by the upcoming Club Breakfast, see him to pay for your hat. We also have club contact cards for you, stick them on windshields or give to curious strangers who are potential members. Let's keep these classic cars out of the car crushers and on the road through the efforts of our club.

The possibility of our club sponsoring a Spring Fling next March continues to be discussed. The sticking point seems to be finding a location that is central and easy to access, and has a covered shelter, and has a place where we can set up a food station. Got any suggestions for such a site? We would love to hear your ideas.

Keep in touch and keep the love bugs off your paint.

MGC ya,  
Craig

If you have not paid your dues for 2011 This is the last Newsletter you will receive. So get your payment in or miss out on all the FUN!

(Continue all the March events)



breakfast? Would you like to have something warm for breakfast, while sitting with friendly fellow British car enthusiasts around a cozy table? Then we have just what you need.

We have reservations for 25, at the **Old Spanish Sugar Mill Restaurant for Saturday, March 19, at 10:00 a.m.** It is inside the DeLeon Springs State Park, and well worth the trip. Meet Bob Storke at the DeLand Wal-mart (1699 North Woodland Boulevard) at 9:00 a.m. We will depart Wal-mart at 9:30 with Bob in lead, to arrive at the restaurant doors by 10:00. This year, the club will not only pay your entrance fee, but also pick up your tab for the breakfast if you are the lucky raffle winner. Let's all try to park our little British cars together inside the parking lot, with the purpose of spreading our British Cheer to those passing by.

If you've never visited the Old Spanish Sugar Mill Restaurant, each table has a hot plate built into the center. You order breakfast-coffee, toast, eggs, pancakes, meats, etc., and cook the eggs and pancakes to your liking right there in front of you. If there is a bit of chill in the air, your knees will stay warm under the table from the hotplates. Afterwards, take a walk around the DeLeon Springs area, rent a kayak, watch the brave souls endure the 72 degree spring waters, or hike a trail. Bring your camera, of course. your tab for the breakfast of one lucky raffle winner. Let's all try to park our little British cars together inside the parking lot, with the purpose of spreading our British Cheer to those passing by. This is a wonderful breakfast that you will long remember. See you there.

**Note:** the friendly owners of the restaurant insist on a minimum of 10, in order to be seated. Please RSVP to Craig, [cwcolby@hotmail.com](mailto:cwcolby@hotmail.com), or 299-5134 (C).

#### Let's Go To The Pub In Our British Car

This sounds like a fun event, and it will even include some exercising of your little British car. We will meet Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Ormond Beach Walmart parking lot at 2 p.m., then snake our way through some secret back roads to A1A. From there, enjoy a scenic cruise north to St. Augustine, and the King's Head Pub, just north of St. Augustine on U.S.



(Continuing the March events)

Highway 1. The food is good, and you will enjoy the atmosphere of the place, coupled with the hospitality of the owner. Please shoot me an RSVP if you are interested, so I can alert them to save us tables. However, in case of rain, this event will be redirected, as their parking lot is famous for flooding.



**REMEMBER DST Starts March 13<sup>th</sup> this year**

*That is - Daylight Saving Time*

## FEBRUARY EVENTS

### Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch enjoyed Chinese food this past February. They met at Wong's Eight Wonders Kitchen, in DeBary. Eighteen members went home with smiles on their faces, and swore they would not be hungry in an hour. True or not? You can ask Mike and Gene Schoonmaker, Gary and Sylvia Thomas, B.A. Walters, Bob and Betty Storke, Jere and Bonita Dotten, Steve and Debi Bradley, Richard Heckathorn and Joyce Moser-Thomas, Jan Radigan, Ron and Louise Ashton, Jim Lubinski, and former ABCC member Don McBride.



**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
MARCH 17<sup>th</sup> 2011**

## British Motor Trade Association Conference February 5<sup>th</sup> at Classic Motorsport

Boy, if you missed this chance to eat free donuts, chat with friends, and hear true "experts" on carburetors and detailing, are you going to be sorry when you read this! The Saturday began at 8 AM with lots of LBC's in the parking lot.



Moving inside we found our fearless leader, Craig, munching on a donut waiting for the first Tech session to start. The place was packed and well worth it. The presenter was Joe Curito, contact

[www.joecurto.com](http://www.joecurto.com), who described how he rebuilds carbs using his own kits. If you were there, you would never let anyone else touch your carburetor.

After a short break, the next tech session started with Tim McNair, of "Grand Prix Concourse Prep. Inc." I had the chance to hear him at the VTR National on Jekyll Island. He shared all the tricks of making your LBC a winner at any show, and cautioned us that Lexol is not recommended on your interior because it causes the stitching to rot. The day progressed with time to chat with old and new friends inside the showroom (where the racing GT6 and TR-3 were) and in the parking lot that housed a great collection of cars including our own members:



- Gordon Hart
- Dave Mederer
- Ron Watz
- Tommy Suddard
- Mike Schoonmaker
- Bob Storke
- Jim McCarthy
- And those with cars:
- Red Meyer                    1960 Austin Mini
- Gary and Sylvia Thomas   1966 Austin Healey
- Craig Colby                 1968 MGC roadster
- Vic Hall                        1992 Jaguar XJS V-12
- Tim Suddard                 1965 Sunbeam Tiger
- Joe Vetter                     1973 MGB roadster



Kevin Lemire                    1976 MGB roadster  
 David Wallens                 1971 Innocenti Mini  
 Bob Gilpatrick                Pembleton Supersports  
 (Mike Schoonmaker-Assoc. Editor)

### British Cruisers Do Vic's Tour

If driving your little British car brings you pleasure, then 22 ABCC members had their fill this past February 26. Organized by our Vic Hall, we met at the Ormond Walmart parking lot mid morning, then headed west on State Road 40. Vic lead us through scenic back roads in Volusia and Flagler Counties, to a house somewhere in the farmlands of Flagler. There, we enjoyed tea and breakfast sweets while chit chatting with fellow members. Back on the road again, we zigged and zagged east to the Tomoka Loop in Ormond Beach. We stopped at the Colonel Dummett Rum and Sugar Ruins, but the place was closed in 1825, so no rum for us.



From the Dummett Ruins, we visited the Ormond Tomb (an honest man), and Fairchild Oak (big tree!).



There he is.



Tree huggers Ed and Kathy Kufeldt hug their favorite Oak tree

Continuing through the Loop, we wound around the twists and turns that beckoned to our little British cars. Our journey ended at the Golden Lion in Flagler Beach, where we enjoyed lunch and conversation with each other.



### ABCC MONTHLY RECIPE for MARCH

This month's recipe treat is from Ruby Colby, [rubbycolby@hotmail.com](mailto:rubbycolby@hotmail.com) Ruby recently won Second Place at a Chili Cookoff at her church. If you would like to try her winning recipe, here it is.-----

### SIMPLY CHILI

Ingredients:

- 1 pound ground lean beef, 93 / 7 % (fat content)
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 Tablespoon Olive Oil
- 1 (28 oz.) can whole tomatoes, broken up
- 1 (15.5 oz.) can Bush's - mixed beans – drained
- 1 (15.5 oz.) can Bush's - light or dark beans – drained
- 1 (15 oz.) can tomato sauce
- ½ cup water    1 tsp. Salt    2 ½ tsps. Chili powder
- 1 bay leaf, or 2

PROCEDURE:

In medium – large heavy pot, heat 1 Tablespoon olive oil, cook meat & onion until meat is lightly brown & onion is tender. Stir in the remaining ingredients. Bring in to a boil, lower heat, cover and simmer for 1 HOUR. Remove bay leaf. Serve w/ jasmine rice & garnish w/ Mexican cheese.

Makes 6 – 8 servings

Note: cook chili day before – for concentration of spices and other ingredients – and it is good for your eyes.  
 Original recipe by Rudy D. Colby



## JOKE OF THE MONTH

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the family's MG.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son: "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the MG."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up, and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible. But I'm disappointed that you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair...and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

To this his father replied, "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

(thanks to ABCC member John Lister)

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR APRIL

Meade Gardens	Saturday, April 2	Winter Park, sponsored by All British Car Club of Central Florida, <a href="http://www.allbritishcarclub.com">www.allbritishcarclub.com</a>
Lunch Bunch	Wednesday, April 6 1:00 p.m.	Genuine Bistro and Lounge, 2 South Charles Richard Beall Boulevard (US 17-92), DeBary contact Bob Storke, <a href="mailto:rstorke@cfl.rr.com">rstorke@cfl.rr.com</a> for more info.
MG GOF – South	Saturday, April 9	Weeki Wachee, sponsored by Suncoast Classic MG Club. <a href="http://www.gofsouth.com/index.html">http://www.gofsouth.com/index.html</a>
Club Event	Saturday, April 16 2 – 4 p.m.	Our Golden Oldies British Car Show, Riviera Assisted Living Facility, Holly Hill.
Blake Park	Saturday, April 30	Lake Helen, sponsored by AACA Volusia Region, times unknown as of this writing. <a href="http://local.aaca.org/volusia/">http://local.aaca.org/volusia/</a>

### FAR FAR FUTURE

A car show	Saturday, May 7	Big Al's Art of the Automobile show, downtown Daytona Beach (Beach Street) area <a href="http://www.artoftheautolifestyle.com/">http://www.artoftheautolifestyle.com/</a>
Daytona Cubs British Car Show	Saturday, May 14 5:30 to 10 p.m.	Daytona Beach City Island Jackie Robinson Ball Park. Tickets @ \$4.50, reserved seats for us.
Club Picnic	Saturday, May 28 11 a.m.	Washington Oaks State Park & The Rocks. Club pays the entrance fee. Bring own meal & set up. Good view of view of Atlantic Ocean and natural coquina rocks, nature trail, etc



## Tech Tip of the Month

### Alternator Failure: 1974 – 1979

“The most frequent failure, I believe, is the diode set. The individual diodes are soldered to a metal heat sink and the solder joint fails. They can be tested with a simple ohmmeter and re-soldered, but this is tedious and a new diode set is available for around \$20. There are then only 3 wires to solder into place.

Sometimes the internal regulator fails. This can be tested in the car by shorting the case of the regulator (visible thru the slots in the plastic end cover) to ground while running at fast idle. This causes the alternator to put out maximum charge. If the voltage increases, the regulator probably needs to be replaced. You can do this to get yourself home, but you can overcharge the battery if you do it for over 1/2 hour with no load, as your voltage is unregulated. In other words, the voltage will continue to rise past the ideal 14.7 volts. Running with the lights on will generally keep the voltage under control.

Note: On Delco alternators there is a hole in the back that you can insert a small screwdriver into and accomplish the same thing.

Our Tech Tip this issue is from Chuck Schmit. Thanks Chuck.”

#### Bonus Tech Tip:

Valvoline Racing Oil and Valvoline Motorcycle Oil have a zinc additive in them. This is particularly beneficial to our older engines. The racing oil comes in SAE 20/50, 50, and 60 weights. The motorcycle oil comes in SAE 10/30 and 20/50 weights. Current prices at AutoZone are at \$4.49. Wait for it to go on sale at your local auto parts store, then stock up.

### *YOUR MONTHLY MEMO FROM MURPHY*

10. Any tool or part dropped on the garage floor will either roll out of sight, or just beyond arm's reach under the car.

25. **Law of the Alibi** - If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.

## CLASSIFIED ADS –

**Need Parts?** Eric Salvioli may have just what you are looking for. Contact Eric at (386) 290-7214 or [esalvioli@bellsouth.net](mailto:esalvioli@bellsouth.net)

### ABCC REGALIA

Contact Bob Storke [rstorke@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rstorke@cfl.rr.com) for information about Tee Shirts and Hats with our club logo on them. A new order is going in for hats, so contact Bob before they are all sold out.

### 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/>



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Members can have any style and color shirt they desire. *Four Towns Embroidery* 502 N. Spring Garden Ave in DeLand will apply the logo and their name. The ABCC Logo is \$8.00 ea and the name is \$3.00 if done at the same time. They have an assortment of shirts in the shop. Members not in the DeLand area can bring their shirts to any club meeting and we will arrange to have them done. They need to pin their name and payment to the shirt. Note on the paper the name you wish to be put on the shirt, if any. Check the colors in the logo so you don't get a shirt that will make the embroidery blend into the shirt color.

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