

British Motor Club of Utah

March 1996

Volume 8 Number 8

March will be a busy Month

There are two events scheduled for March. The St. Patrick's Day Parade, and a combined show at ZCMI and at the Gallivan Center.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade is the traditional beginning of the season event. This is a great parade for the group as the parade organizers don't seem to take themselves too seriously (just as we do). Your car doesn't have to be perfect for this event. fill it up with kids, grandkids, shamrocks, green crepe paper, balloons and people with green hair. This event is pure fun. We will meet near *South Temple and Main Street between 8:30 and 9:00 AM on Saturday March 16.*

The parade will be held this day independent of weather. We will learn our meeting location Saturday morning. If you arrive and don't see the group ask at the table on the south side of South Temple between West Temple and Main. We will try to have someone near the corner of West Temple and South Temple with a BMCU sign but don't always succeed.

You will likely have to reach the meeting site from West Temple as most other streets will be closed off. The parade runs down Main Street to about 4th South where it breaks up. If you need to cross Main Street to get to the meeting point, do so south of 4th South. North Temple is often times a zoo. Expect major traffic tie ups everywhere as you approach the parade route. The parade actually starts at 10:00 AM but they want us in place by 9:00. We will not know until Friday

evening or Saturday morning whether we will be near the beginning or at the end of the parade. The best plan is to be there by 9:00 and be prepared to wait around. Be sure to have warm clothes if it is cool or damp. Bring balloons, crepe paper, paper shamrocks, and what-not to decorate the cars. No British flags, however; remember Ireland is separate country and they don't like the English much. We will likely head off to a brunch/lunch afterward.

Second, there will be British car and motorcycle shows in the ZCMI mall and at the Gallivan Center on Saturday, March 30. These two events have been combined to some degree and will occur on the 30th. Details of these events are somewhat sketchy at the moment. We know that the ZCMI event will run all day, starting about 7:00 AM and ending about 7:00 PM. It is limited to twelve cars. ZCMI will provide security for the cars.

The Gallivan show will be in the afternoon and evening, starting about 3:00 PM and running to about 8:30 PM. If you are interested in these shows, contact Bill Davis. The easiest way to get him is to call the cathedral at 322-3400 during the day, or you can call him at home at 968-0610. If those two don't work, call him at Great Basin Rovers at 486-5049.

We will have more details by the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Call Bill about the middle of the month, or inquire at the parade. We will want a variety of cars for the ZCMI show, and probably no more than one example of a model. It appears likely that ZCMI will give us a donation for this and we will try to get some of you to come out and give them a great display.

Pot-Luck

It appears that the Winter doldrums have come to an end. The February Pot-Luck was a rousing success. About forty people braved the delightful weather carrying pots and bags of good things. Very little of it was carried back home. We all watched a few videos, talked to everyone, conducted a bit of business and ate a lot of very good food.

The new Board of Governors for the BMCU is made up of Mark Bradakis, Diane Pivrotto, Joe Martinez and Marty Van Nood. Mark was chosen to continue as Governor General by the Board. Marty will continue as Chancellor of the Exchequer. Many thanks to retiring Board members Steve Bender and Jim "Pugs" Pivrotto.

A major item of business was the proposal for the BMCU to affiliate with the North American MGB Register. Since by far the most numerous car in the BMCU is the MGB, this is a very logical step. Also, the NAMGBR will provide the BMCU liability insurance under their group policy. At present, there is no fee for affiliation, but the NAMGBR does ask us to promote the NAMGBR and encourage our members to join the national group, to use their logo on our newsletter, and submit information on our group and

Why is there a painting of Batman hanging across the hall from the portraits of the Bishops of the Utah Episcopal Diocese in the diocese building?

activities to them. The membership fee is \$25. / year for an individual and gets you six issues of the magazine they publish, "MGB Driver." Several people expressed interest in membership in the NAMGBR at the Pot-Luck and we will get some membership applications as soon as we can. If you are interested in joining the NAMGBR contact Mike or Sharon Bailey at 262-9361(H). The NAMGBR recognizes the MGB, Midget, MG 1100/1300 and post-Abingdon cars. The members at the meeting approved the BMCU affiliating with the NAMGBR and the necessary paperwork is underway. Everyone needs to remember that any alcoholic beverage involvement voids the insurance coverage. We will learn the details of this later and how it applies to the field day.

Another item was the calendar for the upcoming year. We worked out a tentative schedule for the year, and it is listed in the "Lucas Calendar." Some of the events have names associated with them and others do not. We, the Board and the editor, will ask some of you to be the focus person for these unclaimed events. It isn't hard: set a meeting place and time, and let the newsletter editor know when and where; figure out how to get from the meeting point to the destination; answer a few phone calls; and when it is time to leave, tell the group the route or to "follow me." Please be willing to help us out by running an event. Also we are trying to work out a timed, single car event where we do a little racing around the cones. Mark Bradakis, Ron Christensen and Greg Chester will work something out for us.

Marty Van Nood gave us the story on finances: donations are down, but newsletter cost is down even more as a result of the bulk mailing the Bruce Schilling is doing for us. Thus, the BMCU is still solvent and the bank account looks good. Doug Wimer gave us a brief update on the '97 GoF-West. It will be in Park City in July of '97 and is expected to attract couple of hundred MGs mainly T-types and Pre-War cars, but other MGs too. Doug and Floyd Inman are leading this effort. If you would like to get

involved in this contact Doug at 1-801-654-2117. No meeting of the group that is currently involved has been scheduled. It would be desirable for as many MG owners as possible, particularly with T-types, but others are welcome, to attend the GoF this year in Stephenson, WA during the week of July 10-18. Gary Lindstrom is organizing the trip this year. He can be reached at 532-1259.

Comments on "Disappearing Oil"

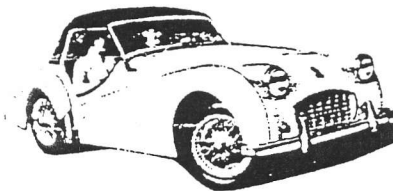
Just a few notes about an article in last month's newsletter concerning disappearing oil in your Zenith-Strombergs.

Bruce Schilling says the "irreplaceable" star washer is replaceable. He has part numbers.

Roy Beale says before putting in the new O-ring topped by the star washer, you must get rid of the grooves resulting from driving out the star washer, otherwise, you will chew up the new O-ring and it will leak worse than the old one. This can be done with a rod wrapped with a piece of fine emery.

No one seems to know why you need to heavily grease the adjusting screw, unless it is to help prevent the leaks from chewing up the O-ring. There were concerns expressed that the grease would likely prevent the needle from seating correctly.

Caveat emptor.



The Lucas Calendar

This calendar works about as well as its namesake, so use it with care. Club events have **bold** dates. The others you may find interesting. All events are subject to change.

March 16. St. Patrick's Day Parade. Notice the correct date. Bill Van Moorhem, 582-9223(H) or 581-7687(W).

March 30. British Car show at ZCMI and at the Gallivan Center. The two shows have been combined on the later date. Bill Davis 322-3400(W) or 968-0610(H).

April 13. Rallye/Poker Run. Bill Van Moorhem.

May 18. Antelope Island Run and Picnic. Maya Lolmaugh

June ??. British Field Day. Bill Davis
June 26-30. MG International Indy 96.

July 4. Sandy Parade.

July 13. Alpine Loop.

August 10-18. GoF-West, Stephenson, WA.

August 24. Trapper's Loop.

August 30 - September 2. Steamboat Springs Vintage Car Races.

September 2?. Miner's Day Parade in Park City. Floyd Inman.

October 5. Mount Nebo Loop.

October 19. End-of-the-Season Dinner.

November 16. Tech Session.

January 11. Tech Session.

February 15. Pot-Luck and Business Meeting.

Competition Notes

By Mark Bradakis

The summer of 1996 should prove to once again have a good range of sporting events suitable for our favorite cars. The Utah Region SCCA autocross season will start off with the first event at Hill Air Force Base, Sunday March 24th, followed by an event at the Dee Event Center in Ogden the following Sunday, March 31st. There will be a general membership meeting on March 16th, at a location to be decided later. If you are interested, call Mark Bradakis at 573-PAIN, that's 573-7246 for the alphabetically challenged.

Intermountain Vintage Racing has a number of events slated for the season, with the first to be a car show at a local mall on March 17th, the day after the Saint Patrick's day Parade. The first of two possible hillclimbs for the year will be June 8th and 9th, likely at the Snow Basin site again. Look for a test & tune at Suntana raceway again, another hillclimb later in the fall, and a fun rally sometime after Labor Day. IVR is a local group working to bring vintage racing events to the state. Dues are \$40 per year. For more info, feel free to again call Mark Bradakis, 573-7246.

With a bit of luck, there may be a BMCU-sponsored autocross later this summer, stay tuned! And, of course, the traditional spring Tinker Day will be coming up, probably Saturday, April 13th. Details in the next issue.



Left over parts

Grill badges! If you ordered and pre-paid for one be sure to pick it up. The following people have paid for one and have not picked it up: David Tyler, Howard Bartlett, Russ Meyer, Tom Barnard, Robert Hendricks, and Dennis Stephenson. The list is getting shorter, but we will be making a serious effort to clean up the current list of grill badges and start a new order. If you are still due one please call the editor, Bill, at 582-9223. Grill badges are \$20. each

Dick Fritz, a BMCU member in Boulder Colorado, sent us a note where he comments that the first serial number of the early MGs, 0251, also adds up to a nice octagonal number. Very observant of you, Dick.

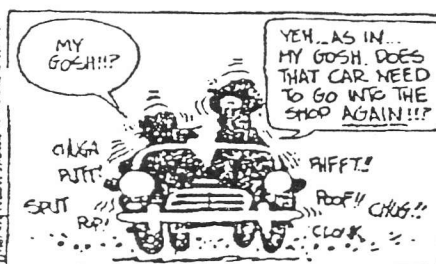
Dick Reeder sent in a list of 10 things you never hear when riding in an MGB (or some other marques and models too):

1. Turn down the heater.
2. It sure is quiet in here with the top up.
3. Lucas must have been an electrical genius.
4. I'm going down to Autozone and get a new water pump.
5. Everything on this car works.
6. Look how everyone makes room for us in this traffic.
7. I'll take the kids with me.
8. This part will fit any MG.
9. Since I bought this car I've not had to do anything to it.
10. Leave the tow chain at home, we'll never need it.

Autojumble

For Sale. Two 1275 Mini Cooper engines. \$595 + Shipping. Contact Joe Jamison at 1-970-824-8770 for information

POP'S PLACE



From the Exchequer



Balance 1/10/96	\$1,005.38
February Newsletter	-\$47.48
Donations	+\$382.25
Interest	+1.86
Balance 1/10/96	\$1,342.01

Board of Governors: Mark Bradakis, Governor General; Joe Martinez; Diane Piviroto, 486-0547; Marty Van Nood.

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Membership director: Bruce Schilling, 486-0425

This Newsletter is published by the British Motor Club of Utah, Ltd., a non-profit corporation of British automobile owners. The group holds monthly events such as drives, picnics, technical sessions, and more. We welcome owners (or potential owners) of British cars, in any condition, to the group. Membership is free, but we ask for a donation at events to support the Newsletter and other activities. If you would like to join the group, send your name, address, and a list of British cars owned to Bruce Schilling, 917 East Mill creek Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84106 or call Bruce at (801) 486-0425.

From question on page 1: No one seems to know, but Bill Davis was going to try to find out for us.

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