

British Motor Club of Utah

April 1998

Volume 10 Number 9

April Events

There are two events in April. First is the annual Spring Tinker Day on **Saturday, April 11**. This is a chance for you to bring your car down to Mark Bradakis' Fat Chance Garage, home of the Fat Chance Racing Team, and get some opinions and help on what may be wrong with your car and how to fix it. Normally, if there are 10 people there you can get at least 11 opinions, but one of those is usually correct. Seriously, we can give you some help with diagnosing problems and solving them.

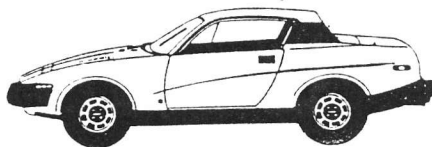
If it is a small job, it can be repaired there and usually there are several people under cars or peering into the engine compartments. Tools are available, but it may speed up things if you can bring some of your own. You will definitely need to supply your own parts. If you have questions about what you may need or if we can help, call Mark at 801-364-3251. The Fat Chance Garage is located at **3994 South 300 West, #22**. This is in the Garco complex on the east side of I-15 and between 3900 South and 4500 South. Since we don't know what freeway exits are open and closed, make your way to 4500 South and 300 West (there is a McDonald's at the intersection). Head north on 300 West for about 5 blocks. Number 22 is in the northwest part of the complex. You can also approach from the North, off 3900 South, if you can find the turnoff onto 300 West in the middle of the freeway / railroad overpass. Tinkering begins about 10:00 AM and continues until everybody goes home. Feel free to stop by with or without your British car, to kick tires and see what other people are up to. It often rains or snows on this event.

We will be doing it regardless of weather.

One note: the Fat Chance Garage is not a suitable place for small children.

Second is a Hare and Hounds Rallye. Kees Versteeg has kindly volunteered to lead this for us again this year. In a Hare and Hounds rallye, the Hare sets out in his car a few minutes before the hounds. At each turn the hare leaves a spoor, a scoop of flour on the road perhaps, that indicated the direction to take. The way he does this will be explained at the event. The hounds leave the starting point at 2 or 3 minute intervals and attempt to follow the track of the hare. If you succeed you will be asked how many miles you drove, and how long it took. The car with the lowest mileage will be the winner. If there are two or more cars with the same mileage, the one requiring the least time will win.

The hare, before he leaves, will let you know the meeting point, so if you get totally lost, as the editors did last year, you can join the group afterwards. Questions, call Kees at 801-322-1718, or meet us at the **Tracy Aviary Parking Lot in Liberty Park at 9:00 AM on Saturday, October 18**. The best way to reach the aviary is to go to 600 East and 900 South in Salt Lake. Enter the park by turning south. Follow the road around the park loop until there is large parking lot on the east. This is the place. There were signs for the Aviary the last time we looked.



St. Patty's Day Parade

After a week of rain forecasts for Saturday, the day of the parade dawned clean and pleasant. Fourteen cars gathered for the annual parade. The editor was slow in responding to the parade committee so we were near the end.

Two interesting groups in the parade included a group dressed as road construction cones and the snow shovel drill team. The editor finally obtained a spray can of green hair dye and was sporting a green beard, which resulted in lots of chuckles, comments, large eyes in children and adults trying to ignore it.

The parade, as usual, was an eclectic mix of Irish families and strangely dressed people doing weird things. We fit right in. The announcer threw out his usual barbs about the English—I guess the Irish have a right to do that—and no one threw anything at him. After the parade about half the group meet for lunch at the Rocky Mountain Grill.

Enjoying a beautiful day were: Ilene and Doug Wimer; Denise, Barry & Becky Blackett; Matthew Hanse & Lesley Bailey; Tom Barnard; Dan & Sharon Forester; Bruce Schilling; Steven Nelson; Floyd & Kathy Inman; Steve, Abbie and Rachel Bender; Karen & Mark Bradakis; Carlin Jacobson; Harold & Suzanne Anderson; and Julie & Bill Van Moorhem. Also joining us for lunch were Bob & Sandy Vargas.

Upcoming Competition Events

By Mark Bradakis

The summer of 1998 could see some interesting developments in auto sports in the Salt Lake area. There is a good chance that a site possibly suitable for real road racing may be developed—something we've not had in the area for years. Stay tuned, I'll work on keeping you informed.

The SCCA Solo II (autocross) season will be getting under way soon. There is a general meeting for interested folks, SCCA members or not, coming up on Saturday, March 14th, 7 PM at the Driver's Mart in Salt Lake City, on 9th South at State Street. The first autocross is scheduled for Sunday, March 29, site not yet known. More details about this event and the first part of the schedule should be available at the March 14th meeting.

Intermountain Vintage Racing is again planning a good slate of activities, with several events offering track time as well as the traditional two hillclimbs. The first hillclimb will be on the Snow Basin road east of Ogden, assuming Olympic construction doesn't interfere on June 6th and 7th. The fall event will be September 19 and 20 on the Bear Hollow road, at the Winter Sports Park. The first track event is currently scheduled for May 2 and 3 at the new site in Tooele, and will be held in conjunction with Ferrari of North America. Could be quite the weekend! IVR meets the first Wednesday of the month, 7 PM, at the Wasatch Pizza Company. This is located in the Olympus Hills Mall, about 3500 east and 3900 south in Salt Lake.

And of course, there will be a Spring Tinker Day at the Fat Chance Garage on April 11th, which is a week before our April driving event. More details on this at the beginning of this newsletter.

Left Over Parts

The GoF-West '98 will be in Monterey, July 5-9. The T-series group has started planning the trip. If you are interested contact Floyd Inman, 435-645-8460 and make hotel reservations very soon.

Many belated thanks to Roy Beale for an excellent session on suspensions in January. Roy is building a shop at this home and it will be known as The British Garage. Roy can be reached at 964-6313/

Since we wrote the last newsletter a few people have expressed an interest in a Memorial Day weekend trip to southern Utah. If you are interested too, let the editor know at 801-582-9223.

Anybody have contacts with the people who run or attend the "Speed Week" on the Salt Flats? We have tried for several years to arrange a trip to the flats, but can't seem to learn about the speed week far enough in advance so we can schedule a run out there. If you have a source of information please let the editor know.

Looking for books on British cars, the history of the cars not service manuals? When ever a new book store opens they seem to have a good selection, but in a year or so the selection is quite thin. Border's in Cross Roads Mall, downtown, has opened a few months ago and currently has a good selection. I saw the "Original T-Series, MGA, and TR" also some buyer's guides and some other interesting British car books. Check them out when you are downtown.

Bruce reports that 196 people had renewed their membership by the time the March newsletter went out.

FOR SALE: 76 Triumph TR7 solid car needs brake work \$600. Call Pugs 486-0547

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.

April 11. Spring Tinker Day at the Fat Chance Garage. Mark Bradakis, 801-364-3251.

April 18. Hare and Hounds Rallye. Kees Versteeg, 801-322-1718.

May 2-3. Moss Motors British Extravaganza Mk. III, Buttonwillow Raceway, CA. 800-474-9445.

May 16. Run to Eureka. Jim Pivirotto, 801-486-0547.

May 23. First Annual Concours d' Excellence, Farmington Utah. For registration info contact John Green, 801-451-5685.

May 22-25. Memorial Day tour of southern Utah. Bill Van Moorhem, 801-582-9223.

June 13-14. Glenwood Springs Rallye. Denver to Glenwood Springs.

June 20. British Field Day. Bill Davis, 801-364-1816

July 5-9. GoF West in Monterey, CA. Floyd Inman, 435-645-8460.

June 16-19. Moss British Car Festival, Santa Ynez, CA. 800-474-9445.

July 8-12. 7th Annual North American MGB Register Convention. Hagerstown, MD.

July 18. Monte Cristo Run. Mike Odenheimer, 435-649-0106.

July 22-25. Vintage Triumph Register (VTR) Convention. Winona, MN. Try Mark Bradakis, 801-364-3251, for information.

August 15. Alpine Loop. Bill Van Moorhem and Karen Bradakis.

Lucas Calendar

continued

September 4-7. Trip to the Annual Steamboat Springs Vintage Race. Bill Van Moorhem, 801-582-9223.

September 7. Miner's Day Parade in Park City. Floyd Inman, 435-645-8460.

September 19-20. Arvada (Colorado) All British Conclave.

September 26. Mount Nebo Loop.

October 17. End-of-the-Season Dinner.

October 23-25. Triumphfest. San Luis Obispo, CA.

November 14. Tech Session.

January 16. Tech Session.

February 13. Pot-Luck Dinner.

Autojumble

FOR SALE: 1962 AH SPRITE, BRG with black top & red interior, 948 cc engine, California car (no rust). Desperate, must sell by April 15. \$2500 obo. Call Ryohei Aruga at 801-479-4186, evenings only (Ogden area). See picture on page 4.

FOR SALE: '74 Triumph Spitfire, new tires and top. Needs carb and brake work. Currently resting at Roy Beale's, \$800. Call Matt, 801-524-9603.

FOR SALE: '69 MGB-GT. Call Herb Dailey, 943-1257.

FOR SALE: '60 MGA, looks to be in great shape. Call Tom Barnard, 801-266-8968.

FOR SALE: 1953 MGTD, Offered by the Brainerd (MN) Area Amateur Radio Club (BAARC). The BAARC is a non-profit organization.

Description: Light yellow 1953 MGTD roadster. This California car was professionally frame off restored by Mike

Goodman Motors of Van Nuys, CA in 1977. The car is in exceptional condition and has been driven about 3,000 miles since restoration. It was trailered to Minnesota in 1990, and has been driven only a few miles in the last 5 years. Vehicle includes spare parts, manuals, and MG memorabilia.

History: Car was purchased from Mike Goodman Motors by its previous owner in 1977. The restorer said the car was owned by Bill Bixby, a well known actor.

Appraisal: Vehicle was professionally appraised at \$11,040. A copy of the appraisal, with photographs, is available.

Price: This car is being offered at its appraised value of \$11,040, plus a contribution to the Brainerd Area Amateur Radio Club. The person offering the largest contribution buys the car. See your tax advisor for information on possible income tax deductions. The BAARC is a 501 (c)(3) organization.

Inspection and Test Drive: Vehicle is available for inspection and test drive by appointment. It is garaged approximately 1 hour NW of Brainerd, MN. Brainerd is 125 miles NW of Minneapolis and is served by Mesaba Airlines from Minneapolis. Transportation from Brainerd can be arranged, if needed.

Date and terms of sale: This car will be sold on Saturday June 13 at 2PM CDT. An open bidding process will be used. Minimum increase in the bid will be \$500. Increases in bids will be accepted by telephone up until the time specified above. Bidders must submit a \$1,000, certified check or bank money order which will be returned to unsuccessful bidders. Buyer is responsible for all taxes, licenses, and transportation costs. Seller reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

For information contact: Bob Feuer. Telephone 218-472-3445 or e-mail: giddiup@wcta.net. See our web page for pictures: <http://www.uslink.net/brdham/auto.html>

Hint for the Month

Ever started your car with the crank? Many of us have cars with cranks, but aside from turning the engine over to set valves or what not, cranking seems to be nearly a lost art. There has been a discussion of cranking on the MGs email mailing list recently so let me present a compilation of that discussion, experience crank starting my own cars, and some limited experience starting airplanes by "propping" them. If you have comments send them to the editor. If an engine is in good condition and would start easily with a starter, it will start easily with a crank. If it won't, don't bother.

To crank start the engine: First, ensure that the car won't and can't move after it starts. Make sure it is out of gear and the parking brake is set and/or the wheels are chocked. Roy Beale can tell you a story of someone who didn't do this. Two, make sure the Ignition is OFF. Turn the engine over several times with the crank. While doing this make sure that the crank disengages from the dog on the crankshaft pulley easily. If the crank does not disengage easily, you may end up with a spinning crank handle when the engine starts, and it will be doubtful that you will win the race of getting out of the way when it comes around. Three, turn the engine over until the crank handle is at the 6 O'clock position. Notice that the crank will engage the dog in two positions and this may help. Four, turn on the ignition. Five, grasp the crank handle with your fingers and thumb all on the same side of the handle. This feels very awkward but it protects your thumb. Six, pull up rapidly on the crank handle. DO NOT turn the crank beyond the 12 o'clock position. After 12 o'clock you would be pushing down on the handle. If the engine kicks back while you are pushing on the crank, you will end up with a very sore or broken arm (what I believe is called a "Ford Fracture"). If it starts and the crank disengaged, as it should, simply remove it and store it for later. If it doesn't start, check where the handle is located.

Either disengage it and move it to 6 O'clock, or turn off the key and rotate the engine so the crank is at 6 o'clock, turn on the key, and pull up on the crank again. Surprisingly engines start quite easily this way. I assume that since the starter is not pulling down the battery voltage, the spark is very "hot." Don't be afraid to give it a try.

From the Exchequer

Balance as of 2/6/98	\$1987.85
Interest	+\$3.77
Balance as of 3/10/98	\$1991.62

Board of Governors:

Jim "Pugs" Pivrotto, Governor General; 801-486-0547

Gregg Smith, 801-943-2361 email: gregg.smith@slc.k12.ut.us

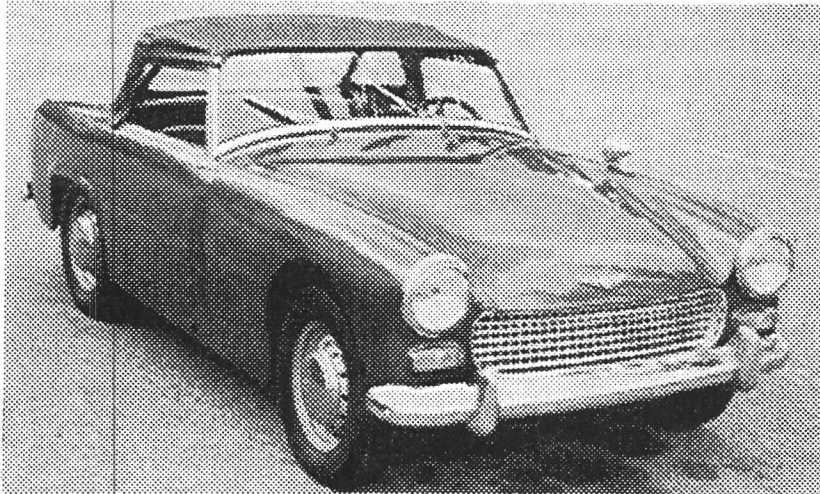
Marty Van Nood, Chancellor of the Exchequer; 467-0525 (H)

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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.



For Sale: '62 AH Sprite—see Autojumble

British Motor Club of Utah

1322 South 1400 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 6160
Salt Lake City, Utah

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Salt Lake City, UT 84103-3916