

# British Motor Club of Utah

October 1998

Volume 11 Number 3

## Fall Tinker Day

Car not working the way you would like? The annual Fall Tinker Day will give you a chance to work on it with the assistance of other club members. Mark Bradakis hosts this annual event at the Fat Chance Garage, home of the Fat Chance Racing Team. The Tinker Day this year will be **Saturday, October 10**. The Fat Chance Garage is located in the Garco Complex at **3994 South 300 West, #22**, at the West end of a row of shops. Tinkering normally starts about 10:00 AM and continues into the afternoon. Often somebody goes for pizza about noon. Mark's shop is pretty well equipped with tools, but you might bring some of your own to be sure. You definitely need to bring your own parts or talk to Mark ahead of time to see if you can purchase what you need from him. Mark can be reached at 801-364-3251.

If you have never been at the garage, it can be a bit difficult to reach. The most direct way is from 4500 South, just turn north at the McDonald's. From 3900 South you have to go south, but 300 West south of 3900 South is not in line with 300 West north of 3900 South. It is west of the railroad tracks and leaves 3900 South while the road is still elevated following the bridge over the tracks. The last time I was there, 3900 South was under construction (surprise!) and you could not turn south from the west bound lane. You had to go past 300 West and make a U-turn and return. Clear? I doubt it. Go look around and don't be in a hurry.



## Already?

Is it the end of the season? Afraid so. Being the end of the season, it is time for the End-of-the-Season Dinner. As a change of pace we will be holding it in Utah County. Greg and Susan Chester have found a Mexican restaurant that will accommodate us in American Fork. ***The Mi Ranchito is at 390 East State Street in American Fork.*** We will meet there at **5:30 PM on Saturday, October, 17**. To reach this exit I-15 at exit number 281 and turn left if you are coming from Salt Lake or points north. You will be on State Street. Follow it for about 2 1/2 or 3 miles, Mi Ranchito is on the right after Wendy's and before McDonald's. Greg and Susan say that Mi Ranchito has good, but not too expensive, Mexican food and, also, beer, for those who way want it bit of liquid refreshment.

This is the last driving event of the year bring your British car, if the weather is good, but you do not have to bring your British car in order to attend. If you don't bring the car, it has become a tradition to bring a part of the car along. For more information on the event give Greg or Susan a call at 801-785-7185.

## The Fifteenth Steamboat Vintage Race

And quite likely the last. Construction is well underway on the hill in the middle of the course and condos have sprung up in the lower part of the course. Clearly there will be no more racing on the basic circuit that was in use for fifteen years. Even the best viewing area was blocked off from the track by a wall. I guess this is progress.

Talking to business folk in the town, they all expressed regret that the races were going, but were of mixed views about building a special track because of the cost. Rocky Mountain Vintage Racing officially is optimistic, but a special track is big, **BIG** bucks. All we can do is wait and see. There definitely will not be a race next year.

Racing was great. There was about 200 cars there racing, including about eight A.C. Cobras, a Ford GT40, and a Tojeiro Sports. The Tojeiro Sports was the predecessor of the A.C. Ace, which was the predecessor of the A.C. Cobra. They all did some laps at speed. There were eight groups racing plus a special display by the Cobras from the Shelby Collection. There were some incidents resulting in bent metal and embarrassed drivers, one Lotus 7 had a wheel fall off while giving rides to the corner workers, but no one was hurt and no one went home too much poorer than when they came.

The BMCU was well represented. It appeared that everyone that has been at

the race during its existence came to see the last one. Attending from the BMCU and racing were Roger Davis, along with his wife Jill, and Fritz Lindbeck.

BMCUers watching were John & Beth Ammon, Charlie Woodruff & Kim, Mike & Susan Cady, Mark & Karen Bradakis, Pugs & Diane Pivrotto, Marvin Match, Sharon & Dan Forster, J. & Kay Jennings, John & Liz Green, Chris Miller, Rob & Nan Green, Mike & Natalie Odernheimer, and Bill & Julie Van Moorhem. Also hanging out with us were Jill & Allen Fuchs and Bob Colins & Lydia Raymond. I am sure we missed some folks too, Sorry.

## Miner's Day Parade a Great Success!

By Floyd Inman and Gary Lindstrom

After last year's dismal showing, the BMCU outdid themselves at this year's Miner's Day Parade down Park City's historic Main Street. Unfortunately, no one took attendance, so we'll just wing it.

We were represented by about 15 cars, a good mix from the Mini to the Jensen Healey with all in between. Bill Plummer was actually on time, accompanied by his daughter who was visiting from San Diego. We had a great time strutting down hill (Jon Hermance was the only one that didn't turn his engine off). Makes for some very quiet cars. Next year we're going to be billed as the Alternative Energy Car Club. [Or: Lucas Ignition Car Club]

Daisy was there in all of her glory, bringing along Sandy and her look alike father, Gary. All in all it was a great day. Weather turned out to be near perfect. At the end, rather than join the masses at City Park we ventured off to Queen Kathy's Cabin in Midway where she had a delightful burger lunch. We lounged on the deck and declared a victory.

Many thanks to Kathy Inman for the hospitality.

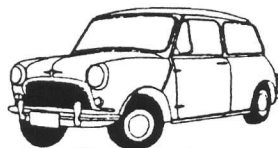
## '98 British Field Day financial report

By Bill Davis

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	
Admissions, advertising, and T-shirts	
Cash	3,435.00
Accounts Receivable	<u>1,250.00</u>
(an additional \$500. was pledged but not received)	
<b>Total revenues:</b>	<b>\$4685.00</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	
T-Shirts	734.60
Committee expenses	200.00
Art work	275.00
Printing: programs/posters	631.79
Banners poles	418.00
Dash plaques	195.00
Barricades	116.25
Port-a-pottys	221.63
Salt Lake Health Dept. permits	28.00
Letterhead	25.25
Mailing	64.00
Post season dinner for committee)	196.66
Donation: Red Cross (for first aid support)	<u>100.00</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$3,206.18</b>

<b>Net Receipts</b>	<b>\$2,328.82</b>
Donation to BMCU	50.00
Donation to Homeless Children's Foundation	1500.00
Retained for '99 Field Day	<u>778.82</u>
	<b>\$2,328.82</b>



MINI COOPER

## 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.

**October 10.** Fall Tinker Day, Mark Bradakis, 801-364-3251

**October 17.** End-of-the-Season Dinner. Greg and Susan Chester, 801-785-7185.

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

**October 30-November 1.** Rollin' On the River, car show, rallye, and dinner by the Arizona MG "T" Roadrunners in Laughlin, NV. For more information contact Lee Kaplan, 602-937-1203.

**November 14.** Tech Session.

**January 16.** Tech Session.

**February 13.** Pot-Luck Dinner.

**June 14-18, 1999.** National MGA Convention at Lake Tahoe.

**August 2-6, 1999.** GoF West at Whistler Ski Resort near Vancouver, British Columbia.

## Hint for the month

The editors' MGA's transmission was leaking on the way to Steamboat Springs. While in Vernal it appeared to be time to top up the oil. I had my head under dash while reaching behind to get the newly opened bottle of oil. Grabbing the oil from Julie I squeezed it sending a flood of oil all over my new pants. @\$%!! In Steamboat I related the story to Mike Cady. Mike had an interesting suggestion. He pointed out that the pull type stoppers found on drink bottles (like Gatorade) will fit plastic oil bottles. Opening the oil and replacing the top with this stopper allows you to seal the bottle while handling it and yet make it easy to open and reclose. Give it a try.

## GoF West '98

By Floyd Inman

GoF West, the annual Gathering of the Faithful to their classic MGs was in Monterey, California July 5-9, and a few BMCUers made the journey. David and Muriel Machovec drove from Idaho Falls in their 1952 TD and 19?? Magnette (Muriel lost the Sacajawa Award to some gal from Vancouver); Floyd and Queen Kathy drove part way in their 1953 TD, and Harold and Suzanne Andersen drove in their air conditioned 19?? Continental Town Car (with the very long hood).

This proved to be a rather unusual GoF as we couldn't find any controversy to bitch about. Queen Kathy claims it's because the BMCU group taught them well.

Monday was the annual Rallye. What a trip! The drive took us through the heart of Monterey, along the coast, and into the 17 Mile Drive where we drove the old Carmel Road Race Course. We continued through Carmel then back to the coast. What beauty.

That evening we enjoyed the Auction Dinner. Quite a success! Preliminary accounting indicated around \$11,000.00 (we did around \$8,000.00 in Park City).

Tuesday was the Car Show. The most exciting BMCU moment at the show was the Mechanics Contest (the committee breaks your car and you must find the problem and repair it). First place winner: David Machovec. Congratulations.

The Funkhana and Swap Meet was Wednesday morning. Good course but didn't come close to the event put on last year by Sharon Bailey and Julie Van Moorhem. At the Awards Banquet that evening, we had another BMCU winner. It's not hard to believe that a farmer's wife from Hooper, Utah could win the Crafts contest. Congrats to Suzanne Andersen.

Maybe the best news is that GoF West, Inc. has gained California Tax Exempt status. Federal exemption will follow soon. GoF West is now a non-profit organization and all contributions are tax deductible. Does that include distance and expenses supporting GoF West events? Perhaps an attorney out there can clarify?

Next year's GoF is August 2-6 at Chateau Whistler, Whistler Mountain, BC, about 60 miles north of Vancouver. If you're interested, contact Floyd Inman at (435) 645-8460 for registration information. With Canadian exchange at the lowest in recent history, make and PAY your reservations now. The current rate is around 45% (US\$1.00 = CAN\$1.45).

*Editor's Note: Whistler is a solid 1000 miles from Salt Lake City, and may require a four-day drive there and back. For your initial planning think about leaving Salt Lake on Friday, July 30 and returning on Monday, August 9. We'll discuss this later.*

## Left Over Parts

Thanks to Andy Lindeman for copying the September newsletter and we had it wrong; Nathan Massie copied the August newsletter. Thanks Nathan.

We need suggestions for the upcoming Tech Sessions. What don't you understand about your car? We can likely find someone in the group who knows.

The BMCU, in its timely fashion, is developing a way to use your email addresses. There will be two ways to use email. The first is to send late-breaking news and event reminders. These will be sent to everyone who supplied an email address. The second will be a way for members of the BMCU, and anyone else, to chat. To be part of this second list you will have to subscribe. To subscribe, send a message to [majordomo@autox.team.net](mailto:majordomo@autox.team.net) with a single line in the body of the message: **subscribe bmcu**. Mazke sure you use just those two words, all lower

case, with no quotes, no signature, period, or anything else. You will receive further instructions, and how to remove your name from the list if you desire.

Remember, the BMCU is an affiliated organization of the North American MGB Register (NAMGBR) and we would like to remind all B and Midget owners that this is your national organization. For \$25 per year you get their award-winning magazine, MGB Driver, discounts from their advertisers, technical advice, and more. Plus, NAMGBR supports the BMCU through their insurance program. If we support them, they support us. Contact Mike Bailey, the Editor or the web site ([www.namgbr.org/namgbr/index.htm](http://www.namgbr.org/namgbr/index.htm)) for membership information. Make sure you tell them you are a BMCU member.

MGA owners, the North American MGA Register (NAMGAR) 1999 national convention will be at Lake Tahoe June 14-18, 1999. The BMCU will try to put a group together to attend. Start planning now and join the NAMGAR. Steve Nelson will contact all MGA owners. It is a unique experience to attend a national meet.

Three BMCU members, Bruce Schilling, Bill Walton, and the editor, went to the Speed Week on the Bonneville Salt Flats in August. None of us had been to a Speed Week and didn't know what to expect. Our major mistake was to go at the end of the week, when most people attempting to set records had left. There were still some interesting vehicles there however. One that appealed to us was a modified MGA V8 that was running at over 200 mph. The car we were looking for was the modified MGF that Rover brought out to try for a new MG record. Turns out the car was at the Wendover airport, with a leaking clutch slave cylinder. We went to the airport, found the car, and chatted with its crew. The Rover folks were friendly and amazed that people in the U.S. would come to see the car. They decided they couldn't run the car in this year's Speed Week, but an email message from one of the engineers hinted at Speed Week in 1999. Keep this in mind for next August.

## Autojumble

For sale, '72 Lotus Europa Twin Can. Excellent unrestored condition, interior perfect, 6-point belts, recently redone engine, tight, fast, \$11,500.00 or best cash offer. Contact Rick Sheya, 264-8692 or canyon@wolsi.com.

For sale, '74 Jensen-Healey. New seats, carpet and top. two tonneau covers, manuals, body good, mechanicals okay. \$3,500 or best cash offer. Contact Rick Sheya, 264-8692 or canyon@wolsi.com.

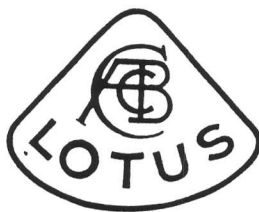
For sale, '68 XKE 2+2, 4.2 L, straight 6, new tires, new shocks, automatic transmission. Call Gary Piaget, 1-360-376-7088. California car in Park City.

For sale, '53 MGTD. rebuilt engine and transmission, new master cylinder, new tires, Brooklands steering wheel, and much more. 1-435-649-6277.

For sale: 4 MGB chrome wire wheels with knock-offs. 582-7938.

## From the Exchequer

Balance as of 8/14/98	\$1678.28
Interest	+\$3.94
Donations	+\$305.00
Balance as of 9/17/98	\$1987.22



### Board of Governors:

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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 to Bruce's email address shown above.

# British Motor Club of Utah

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