

# British Motor Club of Utah

February 2000

Volume 12 Number 7



## *Don't forget to send in your postcard!*

Attached to this newsletter is an addressed postcard. It's the time of year we update the newsletter mailing list. And the way we do this is using the postcards.

The process is easy: to stay on the list, you must return the attached postcard by the end of February. If you don't return the postcard, you're off the list.

It doesn't matter if you've been a member of the club for 10 years or just started getting the newsletter last month. The only way to keep getting the newsletter and getting informed on club activities is to send in your postcard. Don't miss out—fill it out, put a stamp on it, and drop it in the Post!

## *Mix business and pleasure*

Our event this month is the annual February Pot-luck dinner and business meeting.

### **The business**

The business meeting is a required part of our non-profit corporation status. We have to have a business meeting, discuss club issues, and elect a board of Governors. It is important that each of you attend and help elect club leadership that helps you get the most out of your club and help the club grow.

As part of the business meeting, we plan out the year's events. Last month, Jim "Pugs" Pivrotto, Governor General, solicited input on both club leadership and club events. So far, the response had been sadly underwhelming. Please come prepared to discuss the events you'd like the club to participate in this year.

### **The pleasure**

For the pleasure part of the meeting, it's the delicious foods that everyone brings. You won't find any tofu lasagna or dandelion salad, just tried and true (or new) recipes that everyone loves. Some of the dishes got such rave reviews that we published the recipes in the newsletter so the whole club could enjoy them.

### **All the details**

The Pot-luck is Saturday, February 19 at 6:00. The location is the same as last year: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 261 South 900 East in Salt Lake City. It's the place where the Olde English Festival is held each year.

We will try to eat at 6:45 to 7:00, so please try to be there by then. If you didn't attend the Pot-luck last year, we'll be in the large

meeting room on the second floor. It has a full kitchen, so there are ovens to warm things and refrigerator to cool things.

Everyone that attends needs to bring something for the Pot-luck. You can bring that favorite dish, or things such as soft drinks, paper plates and cups, or something easy like chips and dip. Either way, please call Jim or Diane Pivrotto at 486-0547 to let them know what you'll be bringing or to get an idea of what is needed. That keeps us from getting a tableful of deserts and not main dishes, or a whole bunch of food but nothing to eat with.

### **Add a little fun**

Bring all your pictures from the year: trips you've taken in your Britcar, that restoration project that's taking up your garage, snapshots from the year's club events, or videos that you bought at a British Car swap meet (given the amount of business we need to accomplish, though, we ask that you not rebuild your SUs during the meeting). We'll have a table ready to spread out the photos as well as a TV and VCR available to play videos.

## *Another word from the Guv*

*By Pugs Pivrotto, Governor General*

Just a reminder that our annual potluck dinner is coming up quickly: February 19, 2000. Hopefully, many of you plan to attend. This is the event that sets the tone for the upcoming year and the types of activities that you want to have.

I have attached a questionnaire that I hope you will fill out and return me prior to the dinner. The survey results will be discussed at the dinner, assuming enough people return the questionnaire.

So far I have not received a single response to my last column asking for someone to either nominate themselves or someone else to be the new Governor General. Hopefully, all of you were just so engrossed with the Super Bowl hype that BMCU business was temporarily out of mind. Therefore, I am asking once again for input from the members on who you want to lead us. (Gary Lindstrom has agreed to stay on as a Board member).

Folks, this is not an all consuming job nor is it an exclusively male position. It is whatever the Governor wants it to be. I just do not have the time to do the job in a manner that I feel is appropriate.

Also, Diane and I will be coordinating the potluck this year. The reason I volunteered to do this is because I plan on asking everyone that calls if they have given any thought to new leaders and club activities. If I don't get any feedback, then perhaps the current Board members will have to run the club, which means the current members might rethink their commitment to staying on the Board. See you on the 19th.

## A little bit of history

By Nathan Massie

On Saturday, January 15 we had a chance to soak up a little history at the Ogden Union Station.

The day started out nice enough—the weather forecast was favorable. I got the idea that maybe it would be a nice day to drive the B, so I pulled off the cover, tightened down the battery cutoff, and cranked 'er over. Well, tried anyway. One crank, then nothing but clicks. Flat battery! By the time I got into my Trooper, stopped for a gas fill-up, and headed for the capitol

I was already 20 minutes late. I drove by the capitol just as two cars in the group were heading out.

So up I-15 we headed. Then for the next blunder: I misread my own directions and missed the 31st exit on the freeway. Finally, after a bit of a tour of Ogden, I made it to the station to find the group already assembled.

First we went through the car collection—lovely old cars such as a V-16 Cadillac, a Ford Model A, and a 1903 Oldsmobile—all painstakingly restored to showroom condition. The collection was small, about a dozen cars, but incredible. It's just a portion of the Browning automobile collection that I understand is housed elsewhere in Ogden but isn't open to the public.

Next we visited the train exhibit. It featured HO-scale (I'm pretty sure it was HO scale) trains running along authentic scaled dioramas of different western scenes. There were examples of rail-laying hand tools, old train equipment, even a real diesel-electric locomotive cab we could walk through.

Finally, we went through the Browning gun museum. It included showcases housing a sample prototype gun invented by John Browning, alongside the familiar production model that in most cases is still being produced today. Like guns or not, this is an exceptional "monument" to an amazingly talented inventor—John Browning invented an entirely new gun action every 2-3 months for more than 17 years—that I found quite interesting. I was unable to see all of the gun exhibit, as I got caught up in a discussion with one of the curators, so I'm planning to go back again.

## 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.

**February 19.** Pot-Luck Dinner and business meeting, 6:00 PM at St. Paul's in Salt Lake. Pugs Pivirotto, 486-0547.

May 19-21. All British Car Meet, Las Vegas, NV. 702-363-3881.

July 24-28. Austin-Healey 2000 Rendezvous, Ocean Shores, WA. 360-876-8236.

August 2-6. VTR 2000 in Portland, OR. 503-357-5640.

October 19-22. Triumphfest 2000 in San Diego, CA. 858-484-1634.

After the tour, we decided to meet at Warren's Drive-in for lunch. They served us some of their freshly made-to-order burgers and fries and such and no one was disappointed.

Making the trip were Gary Lindstrom, Pugs Pivirotto, Mike and Susan Cady, Dan and Sharon Forster, Mike Brenchley, Kevin McCloskey, Nathan and Nicolas Massie, Craig and Judy Welk, and Steve Nelson. A few even drove their Brit cars: Mike Brenchley's Metropolitan drew a crowd everywhere he parked it.

## Geech



## More oil talk

By Clyde Snyder

*Ed. note: Last month, I included an article from a club member on the topic of oil for seldom-driven cars—cars that can suffer from engine corrosion while in long-term storage.*

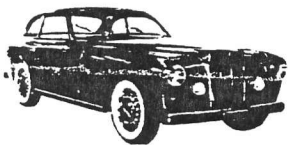
*Here are some additional comments from another club member who has had a good experience with synthetic oil.*

*Please keep in mind that the information we publish here are opinions, based upon club members' experience, and aren't necessarily the opinion of the club Board or membership.*

Cars driven just a few miles a year, used for show, or "summer time" use only need additional protection against corrosion. This is because moisture from condensation mixes with combustion by products to form acids that can corrode engine surfaces. Cars that aren't driven enough to rid the engine of all moisture, which then sit in storage for extended periods, are particularly vulnerable to this type of corrosion.

One synthetic oil that includes additional corrosion inhibitors is Amsoil 15W-40 Farm-Auto-Marine oil. Designed for marine engines, both salt- and freshwater, and farm engine applications, it is ideal for seldom-driven cars. Its anti-corrosion additives give it a MIL-L-21260B military spec rating as a rust-preventative oil.

If you're interested in this oil, look in the yellow pages for an Amsoil dealer, or call Neil Christensen at 801-942-3881.

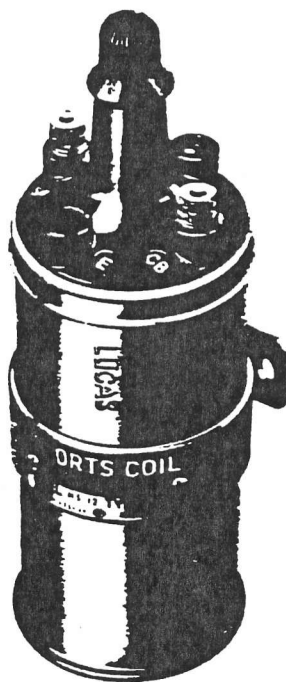


## Left over parts

It's hard to believe that another year's worth of club events have come and gone. I had planned to accomplish a lot this year, both in general and things I wanted to get done to the car, but, my, did the time go by fast.

I hope all of you have a list of events you want the club to do this year. Bring that list with you to the Pot-luck dinner on February 19. I thought we had some great suggestions for last year, and had some great events. Surprisingly, we had about as good a turnout for "social" type events, such as meeting for dinner somewhere, as we had for the "technical" type events.

Another event to add to your summer list: the Austin-Healey 2000 Rendezvous in Ocean Shores, Washington. It's on July 24-28. I have a complete set of info, including a schedule, registration form, regalia order form, and even a resort brochure. If you want any information on this Rendezvous, you can call 360-876-8236 or email [stevenft@aol.com](mailto:stevenft@aol.com). Or, if you want to call me (Nathan Massie) at 486-2935, I'll gladly send you a copy of what I have.



LUCAS SPORTS COIL

## You probably own a British car if...

1. You know that:

A bonnet is not a lady's head covering

A hood does not cover the engine

A spanner does not span anything

A boot is not cowboy footwear

2. You distrust anyone named Lucas.

3. You always park downhill.

4. When people ask you how many cars you own, the answer contains fractions.

5. Any discussion of a trip, whether long or short, always contains references to where and why your car broke down.

6. You tell your wife that the reason you were out to 3:00 am is that your car broke down—and she believes you.

7. You call Moss Motors and they recognize your voice and know your Visa number by heart.

8. You can reply immediately with the month, day, and year when asked when your car was manufactured, but have to stop and think how old your children are.

9. Your idea of the perfect gift is a part for your car—it doesn't matter what part because you will eventually use it.

10. You buy Castrol by the case, not because it's on sale, but because you need that much on hand.

11. Your favorite TV network is PBS, not because it is intellectually stimulating, but because with all the BBC programming you get to see a lot more British cars.

12. You actually like the smell of Liquid Wrench.

*Thanks to the Script Ts newsletter, who in turn got this from the Mini Owners of America.*

## From the Exchequer

Beginning balance	\$1984.41
Newsletter	(53.99)
Interest earned	2.90
New balance	\$1933.32



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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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