

British Motor Club of Utah

April 2000

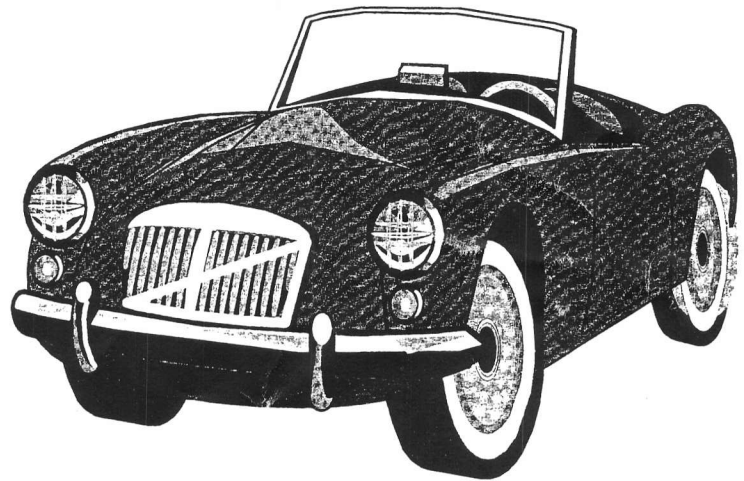
Volume 12 Number 9

Spring Tinker Day

The traditional Spring Tinker Day at The Fat Chance Garage will take place on Saturday, April 8th. It gives club members a chance gather and offer their advice, chuckle, or reminisce as they watch other club members wrestle with some problem, or as we stand around watching the snow fall.

It will start Saturday about 10 am, and go until everyone heads home. Usually that's about 2 or 3 PM, depending on what projects get undertaken. The location is 3994 South 300 West, unit #22. The I-15 construction may affect your best route, but for now the on and off ramps at 4500 South are in operation. Basically, get to 4500 South and 300 West in Salt Lake through whatever maze of orange barrels and concrete bobsled courses you have to take. Head north up 300 West (also called Commerce Drive) past the McDonald's and Zim's. A few blocks later you'll see the still unfinished 3900 South overpass—if you get there, that's too far. Before then, you should see a vacant field on the right (east) side, and a little past that on the left will be the Garco complex. Turn into the Garco complex, and thread your way through assorted automotive salvage projects towards the freeway end of the complex. Unit #22 is a few yards from I-15 war zone, you should see various Triumphs scattered about in front. There may also be a modest pile of "Free Stuff" depending on how vigorously I approach spring cleanup at the shop, the shed, the storage unit, the basement, etc.

As a reminder, my shop is not one of the neatest and most safely organized places of business. I recommend you not bring children, as they could seriously injure themselves playing with the "toys."



Tax Day social

Tax day is not usually cause for celebration, but this year is different: since the 15th falls on a Saturday, you have until Monday, April 17th to get your tax return mailed.

So, on Saturday, April 15, Pugs and Diane Pivrotto will host a social gathering at their house. The address is 1419 South 900 East. Plan to be there at 11:00 am. You can park along 900 East, or around the corner along Browning Avenue.

The plan is to get to know each other a bit better, talk about upcoming events, and if the weather is nice, maybe take a quick drive up East Canyon. You'll still have time to get those Saturday chores done afterwards.

Jim and Diane will provide some snacks, but please bring your favorite snack dish. Also, if you are so inclined, it's BYOB.

You can call the Pivrotto's at 486-0547 to ask questions, get directions, or let them know what dish you are bringing.

Fun at St. Patty's

It was a cool, but snowless (and rainless) Saturday morning as we gathered for the St. Pat's Day parade in downtown Salt Lake on the 11th of March.

This year's route was unique, but many of us felt it was better than previous years. Instead of meeting at Main and North Temple or some of the more heavily traveled streets, this year the parade gathering point was along 7th South and between State and 2nd East. The road was wide enough to allow stragglers to wind through and get everyone in a group.

Bill Van Moorhem showed up with green hair/beard/moustache in a can, and most of us got into the spirit of things with a blast of green on our hair (next year, Marty!). There was lots of green streamers and hats, too.

After we got grouped, we waited for our turn...and waited...and waited. We were number 83, and as many of us joined the crowd to watch and wait, we noticed that entrant number 43 was just starting the route. The Shriners, who have the little go-cart type buggies and some large, old busses and other unique vehicles, had what

seemed to be a dozen entries—from 60A to 60 G or so.

While we waited, some of us availed upon the Squatter's Pub truck (which was in line right behind us) to turn loose of a few of their fine products. Once the word got around, however, they decided to shut the coolers before it was all gone. The lure of free beer drew quite a crowd!

We also got the experience two live bands in line next to us during the wait.

Finally, it was our turn. We went through the course without any problems, other than a bit of a wait now and again. At one point during a wait, Diane Pivrotto, who was near the front, got out to snap a photo down the center of the double string of cars. It's amazing how quickly everyone leaned over the door and waved. As we drove by the reviewing stand, we got the usual heckles from the crowd and cheeky comments from the commentator.

Once we finished the parade, we converged on the Rocky Mountain Grille in Sugarhouse for lunch. They hadn't planned for such a large crowd, but handled us remarkably well with great hot sandwiches and such.

In all, we had about 18 cars with over 30 people: Pugs and Diane Pivrotto, Jon and Susan Hermance, Bruce Schilling, Andy Lindeman, Dan and Sharon Forster, Mark and Janet Driscoll (and Ray the dog), Sheree and Marv Marcus, Gary and Sandy Lindstrom (and Daisy the dog), Marty Van Nood and Wanda Howard, Brad, Nancy, and Amy Parkin, Howard Boulter, Steve Nelson with Kylin, Kenzie, and Megan, Bob and Sandy Vargas, Ilene and Doug Wimer, Dave and Carol Marks, Bill and Julie Van Moorhem, Nathan and Nicolas Massie, and Bill Walton.

Also attending, but without cars, were Barry and Denise Blackett, Floyd and Kathy Inman, and Brent Anderson. We certainly missed the Inman's horn.

It was a fun day. If you haven't "done" the St. Pat's Day parade, get ready for next year. Rusty cars are OK—I even had the Wonder B out for the event.

Member list

One topic at the February Pot-Luck was a member list. Do we publish one or not? This issue has come up for several years yet never resolved. The members present at the Pot-Luck discussed the issue, and got it down to two main points: a list would be welcome for members to contact each other for spur-of-the-moment get togethers, car advice, or help if your car breaks down near another member's home, but no one wanted their name to get on yet another mailing list.

The argument against having a member list—that the list could be used for commercial purposes—was countered by the argument that if you order parts from a parts supplier, or subscribe to a magazine, you're already on a mailing list.

Once that logic was apparent, it seemed that the advantage of having a member list outweighed the possible disadvantage. So, at a recent Board of Governors meeting, the decision was made to create a member list and provide it to BMCU members.

The goal is to have the member list available at the British Field Day in June. Because of the postage cost, it will not be mailed to members, but only available at events during the year. The list will be available to members for a nominal donation to cover the cost of copying so there isn't a financial burden on the BMCU (remember, we don't charge dues!). While the member list will be available to all members, please do not use this list for commercial purposes.

If you *do not* want your name on this member list, contact Bruce Schilling, Membership Director of the BMCU, and request that your name be withheld. You can call Bruce at 486-0425, email at partsmaster@sisna.com (email is preferred), or snail mail at 917 East Mill Creek Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84106. Simply state your name and indicate that you do not want to be on the member list. You have until the 31st of May to request that your name be omitted; after June 1, the membership list will include everyone who has not asked to be kept off of it.

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 8. Spring Tinker Day, Fat Chance Garage. Mark Bradakis, 364-3251.

April 15. Tax Day Social at Pugs' and Diane's. May include a run, weather permitting. Pugs, 486-0547.

May 6-7. 2000 Monterey Peninsula British Car Meet in Pacific Grove, CA. Contact Alan Jones at amjones@worldnet.att.net or 831-484-2679.

May 13. Antelope Island run. May include a quick run up to Hill AFB Museum. Andy Lindeman, 486-8194.

May 27-29. Annual Southern Utah run. See the article in this newsletter. Think about reservations! Sharon Forster, 966-6463.

May 19-21. Las Vegas All British Car Meet in Las Vegas, NV. Call Mark Davis at 702-363-3881.

June 15-18. Annual International NAMGBR Convention in Cleveland, OH. Go to www.mgcleveland.com or call Lynne Burgess at 614-899-2394.

June 17. Annual British Field Day. This is one of our biggest events of the year. We need lots of volunteers to help. Bill Davis.

July 3. Sandy 4th of July parade. Bill Robinson, 947-9480.

July 11. Club 90 night. This is not confirmed. It's a car show/dinner at Club 90, perhaps in conjunction with another car club. Bill Robinson, 947-9480.

July 15. Wolf Creek Pass-Tabiona run. This road was paved last year and is a spectacular drive. Doug Wimer.

July 24-28. Austin-Healey 2000 Rendezvous in Ocean Shores, WA. Contact is stevenft@aol.com or 360-876-8236.

August 2-6. VTR 2000 National Convention in Portland, Oregon. Go to www.PortlandTriumph.com for info, or call Ray Marty at 503-357-5640.

August 5. Social at Bruce's house. This is confirmed! Bruce Schilling, 486-0425.

August 19. Annual Alpine Loop drive/raffle. This is the event that started it all, and a club favorite. Karen Bradakis (364-3251) and Andy Lindeman (486-8194).

September 4. Miner's Day parade in Park City. Fun, cool, down-hill drive. Floyd Inman.

September 23 or 30. Mt. Nebo fall color run. Final date to be determined. Gary Lindstrom.

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

October 21. Fall Tinker Day, Fat Chance Garage. Mark Bradakis, 364-3251.

September 28. End of the Season dinner. Sharon Bailey, 262-9361.

November 11. Rolling garage tour. We need a volunteer for this event.

December. No event.

January 13, 2001. Tour or drive in Ogden area. Nathan Massie, 486-2935.

February 17, 2001. Pot-luck dinner/business meeting. We need a volunteer for this event.

Southern Utah run

By Sharon Forster

Ed. Note: This event is some time off, but you need to get your reservations now.

We'll meet Saturday morning, May 27 at the McDonald's off the second Lehi Exit. We'll then head South on I-15 to Santaquin exit where we'll take back roads to Nephi to avoid the freeway. At Nephi we'll continue heading South on Highway 89 to Mt. Carmel Junction.

On Sunday, May 28, we'll head West on Highway 9 into Zions Canyon area and will continue West to St. George where we'll stop for lunch. After lunch we'll head Northwest on Highway 8 through Snow Canyon catching Highway 18 heading North to New Castle. At New Castle we'll head East to Cedar City where we'll spend the night Sunday night.

Monday morning we'll head North on I-15 to Highway 20 where we'll go East to Highway 89, then North on Highway 89 to Nephi where again we'll take scenic back roads into the Salt Lake Valley to avoid I-15, which will take us on the West side of Utah Lake.

I have 8 rooms held under the name of the British Motor Club of Utah as follows:

Mt. Carmel - Sat. May 27 at the Best Western. Cost is \$79/night. Confirmation number 527LC45027. Phone 435-648-2203.

Cedar City - Sun. May 28 at the Comfort Inn. Cost is \$65/night. Confirmation number CP0528101. Phone 435-586-2082.

You need to call and give your name and credit card number to reserve one of the eight rooms. I will call a week before May 27th to cancel any unreserved rooms. I'd appreciate it if folks would let me know if they are planning to come so I'll be able to tell others who is coming when they ask.

Questions? Call me at (801) 966-6463.

Left over parts

Do you have a line on some good insurance at a reasonable cost for your vintage car? How about sharing the information with the rest of us? I would like to get enough information to write an article in the near future and recommend companies and contacts for insurance. If you have any suggestions, send me an email at nlmassie@mmm.com.

For you MGB/Midget/MGBGT owners, don't forget to check into the North American MGB Register (NAMGBR). The Register is open to all MGBs, post-war Midgets, MGBGTs, and MG 1100/1300s. The dues are \$25.00 per year, and gives you the MGB Driver, an award-winning bi-monthly publication, plus, with our club affiliation, we get event insurance for a great price: free! There's also an annual member list and parts supplier list. Help out the club and get acquainted with a national register, too. Go to www.mgcars.org.uk/nambr/index.html or call 1-800-nambr-1 for membership information.

Speaking of the NAMGBR, one of the items the register mentions as a detriment to the national organizations is lack of participation. That goes for local clubs, too. Once there's no participation, there's no longer a club. Even if you don't have a showroom condition car (witness my Wonder B), come on out and join in the fun. And look through the Lucas Calendar for events that need volunteers and offer to help. To organize an event, all you really need to do is organize a meeting place, set a time, then write up a quick note with all the details and get it to me (Nathan Massie). Email works great for such things. Once the event is done, another quick follow-up note about it for the next newsletter concludes your commitment. It's really not tough, and it helps the club immensely.

Finally, if you see a non-club event listed in the Lucas Calendar, and you want info on it, call me or email me and I may be able to get the info to you. Since the BMCU trades newsletters with other clubs, I often get the info packets from the sponsoring club that I can copy and provide to you. If you know of an event that I should list in the



Calendar, let me know about that, too. Call me at 486-2935 or email at nlmassie@mmm.com.

Autojumble

I have a rear clip for a TR4. It is in poor condition with heavy rust where the fenders attach. The fenders are gone, as well as the door posts. I hate to throw it away, so I would like to offer it free to someone if they come and get it. I live in Midvale. Matt Hansen, 264-9629

For sale: 1979 Triumph Spitfire 54k, Rebuilt engine and overdrive tranny. Interior and body completely restored. New Michelin tires. \$4000.00 or best offer. Call Dave Wilkins 466-6726.

For sale: '76 Midget, runs good with good body, needs a clutch and I don't have the time to replace it. \$800 obo. Todd Swasey, 561-4038.

Exchequer report

No report this month....

DENNIS THE MENACE



"THAT'S CUTE. WHAT KIND OF CAR WILL IT BE WHEN IT GROWS UP?"

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

1944 East 2700 South
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Permit No. 6160
Salt Lake City, Utah



A Chapter of the North American MGB Register

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