

British Motor Club of Utah

www.britishmotorclub.org

FEBRUARY 2006

Volume 18 Number 5



Attendees enjoy, and yes, they even learn, from J. Jennings at January 28 Tech Session. Article on Page 3.

Didn't Get Your January Newsletter?

Could be, given recent outbursts of cosmic rays, avian flu, auto industry restructuring, and postal service rate increases.

Actually, 'twas a simple matter of some dropped balls and miscommunication (Huh? Whaddya say?). In any event, a back up set of mailing labels were used, and some of you were no doubt overlooked — or multiply served!.

If you are one of those unfortunates, you can (as always) download a copy from our club web site, or obtain a genuine First Edition Print by contacting me at gary@cs.utah.edu, 801-532-1259 voice, or 801-606-2837 fax.

Apologies,

--Gary Lindstrom

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Annual Meet

Yessir (and Yesma'am), the BMCU Annual Meeting, Potluck and Brag Fest will take place February 18 at St. Paul's Church, 261 South 900 East, starting at 6pm. Park in the lot opposite the church on the west side of 900 East.

We know it's a holiday weekend (for government employees, at least), but heck where else ya gonna go on a wintry weekend? Isn't it more fun to share memories and boasts about our beloved Britmobiles, and hatch grandiose plans for the coming year?

If past years are any indicators, it will be a fun and inspiring time. Just bring a dish you'd like to share -- either home cookin' or store bought -- anything goes. We don't try to coordinate

dishes (e.g., "if your last name is between Pizza and Quiznos bring a vegan entrée") -- that's way too organized for the BMCU. In any event, with Karma as our Co-Pilot, there always seems to be a groaning board of victuals (the Brits don't condone vittles).

And oh yes, this is your yearly opportunity to exercise your right to get exercised about club management, as in *Vote the Rascals Out*. Or volunteer yourself (or any friend not in attendance) to organize an event, assume the mantle of a Governor -- or even the Sceptre of Governor General!

Be there, or be volunteered!

Memories!

CAR IN DITCH
DRIVER IN TREE
THE MOON WAS FULL
AND SO WAS HE.

Burma Shave

Ides of February: Respond, Oh Post Card Recipients, Or Sulk In Silence!

Yes BMCU'ers, it's time to complete the enclosed post card, affix first class postage (39 cents, until it goes up again), and despatch (note British

Alternate Meanings

Once again, The Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words. The winners are:

1. *Coffee* (n.) the person upon whom one coughs.
2. *Flabbergasted* (adj.) appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. *Abdicate* (v.) to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. *Esplanade* (v.) to attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. *Willy-nilly* (adj.) impotent.
6. *Negligent* (adj.) describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightgown.
7. *Lymph* (v.) to walk with a lisp.
8. *Gargoyle* (n.) olive-flavored mouthwash.
9. *Flatulence* (n.) emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
10. *Balderdash* (n.) a rapidly receding hairline.
11. *Testicle* (n.) a humorous question on an exam.
12. *Rectitude* (n.) the formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.
13. *Pokemon* (n) a Rastafarian proctologist.
14. *Oyster* (n.) a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddishisms.
15. *Frisbeetarianism* (n.) (back by popular demand): The belief that, when you die, your Soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.
16. *Circumvent*(n.) an opening in the front of boxer shorts worn by Jewish men.

spelling) it to our Membership Director for renewal of your spot on the BMCU membership rolls. Good sense and the US Postal Service regulations dictate this formality, since our second class postal permit requires us to document that addressees actually *want to* receive our newsletter, which helps to distinguish us from junk mailers, spammers, and missing person reporters.

Some members take this opportunity to make an annual donation to the club, but that laudable practice is totally voluntary and Lord Knows, we present plenty of other opportunities for such largesse, e.g., the donation can stuck under your nose at club events. Finally, if reading the newsletter online is fine with you, you can *mark online only* and save the club a few printing and mailing shekels.

Attn: All MGB Owners

BMCU has for many years been a chapter of the North American MGB Register (NAMGBR). This accords the club many benefits, including publicity and a very advantageous event insurance program.

Recently however we have received a notice from NAMGBR that the number of BMCU members in NAMGBR has dropped below the number necessary to continue as a chapter in good standing. It could be simply that the two clubs' membership databases are out of synch.

Please let Gary Lindstrom know if you are a member of NAMGBR, or will be joining soon. We'd really like to continue this club relationship, with all the benefits it offers to us.



The Lucas Calendar

This calendar works about as well as its namesake, so use it with care. All events are subject to change. Check our web site for the latest information.

www.britishmotorclub.org

February 18, 2006: Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner — See article Page 1.

February 25, 2006: Beach Party, Mark and Karen Bradakis — see article Page 3.

March 11, 2006: Saint Patrick's Day Parade — Gary Lindstrom.

June 2006: British Field Day, date TBD — Bill Davis.

Editor Passes Quill

Our Esteemed Editor Floyd Inman is retiring after two years of exemplary service.

His successor will be elected at the Pot Luck Dinner, described on page 1.

The Board Governors thanks Floyd for his tour of duty and the fine publications he produced. They and all (or most?) of the membership will miss Floyd's resourcefulness and humor in selecting contents for the issues assembled on his watch.

Now Floyd can focus on chairing the MG-T *Gathering of the Faithful West* in Park City in 2007. T-series owners and other Good Hearts in the BMCU can count on getting to know Floyd better as the planning progresses and volunteer needs are determined.

All You'll Need To Know About British Electrical Systems

This long awaited tech session was a joint event hosted by the Wasatch Mountain Jaguar Register. J. Jennings (known as Jay) covered the basics of electricity, the Lucas color code system, common failure points,

Friendship Between Women:

A woman didn't come home one night. The next day, she told her husband that she had slept over at a girlfriend's house. The man called his wife's 10 best friends. None of them knew anything about it.

Friendship Between Men:

A man didn't come home one night. The next day, he told his wife that he had slept over at a buddy's house. The woman called her husband's 10 best friends. Eight of them confirmed that he had slept over, and two claimed that he was still there.

trouble shooting, and good maintenance practices. J. pointed out that all electrical devices in our pre-computer cars are either lamps or magnets (including motors, generators, and coils). He emphasized that the small number of fuses in our 50's and 60's era cars dictate that

extra fuses be put in line to isolate problems and aid in fault location. Careful planning should precede the addition of modern "upgrades" such as entertainment systems and high powered headlamps, since the existing wiring may not be up to the additional demands. J. emphasized that connections are the biggest source of electrical problems, and soldered wire tips, clean connectors, and dielectric grease are the main defenses against pesky failures. Discussion was lively as attendees reported their own experiences, suggestions, and good/hard luck stories.

Those in attendance included Gary Lindstrom, Steve Abner, John Progress, Clayton Merchant, Mitch Johnson, Rob Foye, John Foye, George A. Schmidt, Duff Lawson, Chris Dunbeck, Carl Lindley, Brent Anderson, Glen Hawkins, Roland Held, Wes Adams, Mark J. Bradakis, Bob Widman, Larry Farrington, Dave Maxwell, Duane Allred, Al Gordon, Larry Bishop, Jon Hermance, Dennis Hoagland, Craig Mossberg, Lous Perez, Eric Achter, Steven G. Nelson, Mike Bailey, and of course J. and Kay Jennings.



**J. Jennings appeases the
Prince of Darkness at the
January Tech Session**

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SUNBEAM



Annual Fat Chance Garage Beach Party

As it has for the ages, the sun starts climbing higher in the sky, promising the coming of warm, sunny weather for another change of seasons. And as they have for over a decade, Mark and Karen Bradakis are planning on their annual Beach Party — an evening of fun and frolic, good food and friends.

Bring along a potluck dish to share, and beverages for you and the kids to your liking. There may be some handcrafted barley based fermented beverage to sample, as usual. Anything stronger than that will be up to you.

No theme this year as in some years past, so let your imagination go in planning appropriate attire for the event. Examples to inspire your creativity can be found at <http://bradakis.com/Beach> Or just spend a buck or two on some tacky floral garment at the nearest DI.

See you at the party!

- **What:** Fat Chance Garage Beach Party
- **When:** Saturday, Feb. 25th, 7 pm
- **Where:** 739 South Park Street (540 East) Salt Lake City

British Motor Club of Utah

917 Millcreek Way
Salt Lake City, Ut 84106

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A Zone of the Vintage Triumph Register

View From Down Under

The *Astute Observers* in the Club (as opposed to the *Stude Servers*, i.e., Repo Men specializing in 30's and 40's classics) will note that the mailing label portion of this page has been elevated to an upper position.

This is pursuant to USPS directives, which request that missives such as ours have the folded edge at bottom.

In return for this compliance they promise not to *Go Postal* on our loyal membership and mailing director when he submits our monthly mailing — which would really crimp his late night cultural pursuits at his Lake Havasu retirement hang out.

Exchequer Report

As of January 30, 2006

Beginning balance
(from last report) **\$1,767.88**

Income:

Advertising Income	\$ 175.00
Contributions	\$ 84.00
Sales	\$ 29.00
Interest	\$.37
	\$ 288.37

Expenses:

Newsletter Expense	
Color	\$ 379.00
January	\$ 143.29
	\$ 522.29

Ending balance **\$ 1,533.96**

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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.

Check us out on the web!

www.britishmotorclub.org