

# The British Connection

Volume 2024 Issue 1

January 2024

## President's Message

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### ABCC Officers

President - Doug Bullard  
Vice-President - Steve Bradley  
Secretary - Debi Bradley  
Treasurer - Gene Schoonmaker  
Editor - Bob Storke

Happy New Year to all. We had our first lunch of the year on Wednesday the 3rd. It was good to see everyone. RL, Roger, Lotus Roger asked me if I had talked to Ralph recently. Ralph was one of the Columbus, Ohio group of British car aficionados. He has been living in Alamogordo, NM for many years. He was paralyzed from the waist down about 60 years ago in a car accident. I had helped to move him to Denver a couple times, and once back to Indiana where his parents had moved to. In Denver, the apartment complex had promised to keep the sidewalk clear for him. That lasted about a month, maybe a little longer. Hence the move back home, until he could figure out his next move.



Ralph wound up in Alamogordo, working for the government at the White Sands Missile Range. He had been trained by the state of Ohio to work on cameras, so he could lead a productive life. By the time he got to New Mexico, he had enough experience to work on their 5000 frame per minute high speed cameras. When the stuff went computerized, he went with it. And being in New Mexico, he didn't have to deal with snow much. So, he took up snow skiing. He bought a Monoski, which he rides in like a kayak. His poles have little ski ends for balance. Just like a regular skier but sitting down.

I gave Ralph a call. RL or Sally had indicated that he had been having some health issues lately. Not unusual at our age. He had blown out both shoulders previously, from skiing and the wheelchair all those years. Had to have one of the shoulders redone after about 10 years. But his latest problem was none of that. Pressure sores. He had to have one fixed with plastic surgery. Then it turns out the blood flow to his legs or lack thereof was causing some of his problems.

*(Continued on page 2)*



*(Continued from page 1)*

He had to go into the hospital to have that fixed.

Throughout this conversation, we shared stories about dogs and trips, and other things. Eventually the age thing came up, and we started mentioning names of people no longer with us. About this time Ralph said you know with all considered; we've had a pretty good run. I can't agree more.

All of Ralph's cars have hand controls. He had a Datsun 510 that he rallied off road. I think it was that car that we drove to Colorado one time. I don't sleep in a moving car, so I must have been tired, as woke up to going slowly along the shoulder. I said what's up? Ralph said we were out of gas. We were on the Colorado plains just west of the Kansas border. We were about 1 mile from a fair-sized town. But there was a welding maintenance shop right over the fence about 50 yards away. Ralph said go see if they have any gas. They gave me a gallon, and we went into town to fill up.

Ah the memories. Ralph was right and we had a pretty good run.

Happy travels

*Doug*

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Time again for the Annual Club dues, \$20.00 regular and \$12.00 for single membership.



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### **Roadster Factory total loss after Christmas fire**

More than a dozen fire companies from two counties were called out around 1 a.m. Monday for what officials described as a total-loss commercial structure fire at The Roadster Factory

[https://www.tribdem.com/news/roadster-factory-a-total-loss-after-christmas-fire-armagh-chief-says/article\\_9fd287e2-a330-11ee-90de-7319c0164473.html](https://www.tribdem.com/news/roadster-factory-a-total-loss-after-christmas-fire-armagh-chief-says/article_9fd287e2-a330-11ee-90de-7319c0164473.html)



# Celebrations

By: Gene



January 2024

Happy Birthday

Debi Bradley 1/7

Celia Martin 1/11

Lucie Kooy 1/12

Happy Anniversary

Steve and Debi Bradley 1/6

## 2024 ABCC Upcoming Club Activities

The new year brings the changing of the Guard. All of the positions are open for a new member to step up and try their hand in the office. All of the officers have been in office longer than they should hold their position. Anyone interested please contact Doug at [pbullard@hotmail.com](mailto:pbullard@hotmail.com). The positions are listed on page 1 of the newsletter.

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### The passing of Pete Rogers

Some of you may know Pete from the Saturday Breakfast gathering in Tavares. Received this email from John Powling about Pete's passing.

“It is with great sadness that I must let you all know that Pete Rogers has passed away. He was a great man and had a love for his family and British cars. He will be missed. No services have been planned as of now, and Sherri will let us know when a service or celebration of life will take place.”

Here is the address for the Rogers family if you wish to send a card.  
Sherri Rogers 31104 Fairvista Dr Tavares, Fl 32778.



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### **For Sale or Wanted**

Have something to sell or looking for something, send me an email with the information, just the basics. I will run for three months or until sold if sooner.

## Upcoming Events

JANUARY 2-14 2024 Mecum Auction. Kissimmee, FL. - [www.Mecum.com](http://www.Mecum.com)

JANUARY 21, 2024 Annual Festivals of Speed. Vinoy Park St. Petersburg, FL- <https://www.festivalsofspeed.com/>

JANUARY 25-28, 2024 Cavallino Classic, Ferrari Gathering. Palm Beach, FL. – <http://www.cavallinoclassic.com/>

JANUARY 19-21, 2024 “Roar before the Rolex 24” IMSA test days. Daytona, FL - <http://www.imsa.com/>

JANUARY 25-27, 2024 Michelin Global Championship. Daytona Beach, FL - <http://sportscarchallenge.imsa.com/>

JANUARY 25-28, 2024 Rolex 24 hours of Daytona. Daytona Beach, FL. – <http://www.imsa.com/>

**FEBRUARY 4, 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual British and European Car Show** 3500 Sarno Rd., Melbourne, FL - [2024 British and European Car Show \(americanmusclecarmuseum.com\)](http://2024.BritishandEuropeanCarShow(americanmusclecarmuseum.com))

**FEBRUARY 10, 2024 Sir John Black’s Birthday drive your Triumph Day.** – Worldwide event

FEBRUARY 18, 2024 29<sup>th</sup> Annual All Brit Car Show. Broward Mall, Plantation, FL - [www.goldcoastbritcar.com/](http://www.goldcoastbritcar.com/)

FEBRUARY 24, 2024 Boca Raton Concours d' Elegance. Boca Raton, FL - [www.bocaratonconcours.com](http://www.bocaratonconcours.com)

FEBRUARY 22-25, 2024 Sebring Speed Tour (SVRA) Sebring Raceway, Sebring, FL - [www.svra.com/](http://www.svra.com/)

Feb 29-March 3, 2024 Amelia Island Car Show. Amelia Island, FL. – [www.ameliaconcours.org](http://www.ameliaconcours.org)

**MARCH 1, 2024 Gator MOG Spring Noggin\_ Fernandina Beach, FL – [www.mogsouth.com](http://www.mogsouth.com)**

MARCH 2, 2024 Annual Strawberry Festival Car Show. Ocala, FL - [Habitat for Humanity of Marion County FL | Strawberry Festival \(habitatocala.org\)](http://HabitatforHumanityofMarionCountyFL|StrawberryFestival(habitatocala.org))

**MARCH** 8-10, 2024 HSR Spring Fling. Sebring, FL [www.hsrrace.com](http://www.hsrrace.com)

MARCH 10, 2024 “British-Italian German” (BIG) car show. Cape Coral, FL - <https://bccswf.com/events-experiences>

MARCH 13 -16, 2024 Sebring Support races. Sebring, FL - [www.imsa.com](http://www.imsa.com)

MARCH 13-16, 2024 Mobil 1 12 hrs. of Sebring. Sebring, FL. - [www.imsa.com](http://www.imsa.com)

MARCH 23, 2024 New Orleans British Car Day, Tammany Trace Covington, LA - [www.bmcno.org/](http://www.bmcno.org/)

MARCH 21-24, 2024 Atlanta Speed Tour, Road Atlanta. Braselton, GA - [www.svra.com/](http://www.svra.com/)

**MARCH 22-24, 2024 34<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spring Turkey Run. Daytona Beach, FL - <http://www.turkeyrun.com>**

**MARCH 30, 2024 Wheels Across the Pond. Jupiter, FL - [www.wheelsacrossthepond.com](http://www.wheelsacrossthepond.com)**

**APRIL 6, 2024 39<sup>th</sup> Annual British Car Show. Henry’s Depot, Sanford, FL - [www.allbritishcarclub.com/](http://www.allbritishcarclub.com/)**

APRIL 11-14, 2024 NOLA SpeedTour NOLA Motorsports Park. Avondale, LA - <https://svra.com/>

**JUNE 15-19, 2024 NAMGAR GT-49 Welches, OR - [GT-49 in Sports Car Heaven | NAMGAR](http://GT-49inSportsCarHeaven|NAMGAR)**

**SEPTEMBER 8-12, 2024 VTR National 2024. Nashville, IN - [2024 Vintage Triumph Register National Convention \(regfox.com\)](http://2024VintageTriumphRegisterNationalConvention(regfox.com))**



### OUR MISSION

To encourage the preservation and enjoyment of all of British cars

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We're on the Web

[www.volusiabritishcars.com](http://www.volusiabritishcars.com)

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