

The British Connection

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President's Message

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Hello and happy hurricane season. We all hope no one has to deal with a hurricane this year, especially us. We don't want to wish ill on others, but we hope any hurricanes that do come stay away from us. So, keep your fingers crossed, knock on wood, pray, or whatever you do that might help.



I've been thinking some recently about how did we (I, myself, and me) get to this point in our car crazy lives. Other things also, but we'll stick to cars. My first car was a 1956 Ford convertible, \$200, that I begged my father to buy. From the neighbors across the street. Now growing up in the frozen tundra, the great white north, rust was a given. You couldn't wash a car in below zero temps. But this car was worse. It had come from Minneapolis or Wisconsin where they put down salt. Salt didn't work in the frozen tundra. We used coal cinders from the local power plant. This car was a real piece. The outside had been spray bombed red over a maybe repainted red. Originally it was salmon and white. That was how the inside was anyway. The car had a 312 v8, automatic, power steering, and power brakes. And most important a power top. The car ran on 6 or 7 cylinders and always put out a trail of smoke. The other kids accused me of spraying mosquitoes. Also, it was parked for most of the winter, as there was probably not enough compression to start in the cold. Obviously, the best part of the car was the top that worked as it should. I thought it was pretty cool, you know, only needed a paint job, rust repair, engine rebuild, and who knows what else. My father sold it out from underneath me. It was his money, and his car, although I thought it was mine.

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But wait, it gets better. Or closer to the root of the problem. The next car was a Hillman Minx convertible. 1961 vintage. A series 3b or 3c. Four on the floor. The 3a had four on the column. Now this car was in pretty good shape. I think the same scenario played out. Begged my father for the money. \$500 this time. It should be noted that I was working at this time. I helped out at a dairy farm bringing in the hay a couple times a summer. I worked at a women's wear store downtown, unpacking and steaming new clothes, and packing clothes to go out. I also ran the sweeper in the morning before the store opened. Always gone by noon. Both jobs are courtesy of high school friends. The Dairy farm kid had a '65 short bed 6-cylinder, stick Chevrolet farm pick up turquoise with a white top. The kid whose father had the clothing store, had a '65 Triumph TR4A solid axle. His name was Jeff. Jeff had a brother studying to be a doctor somewhere back east, and when he came home to visit, he had an early Porsche 912 new.

Are we starting to see a pattern, here. The Sunbeam tiger was just out, and I kept trying to convince my father that he should buy one. Convertibles in North Dakota don't make much sense. Dad always seemed open to the idea, probably due to the fact that he had been a PT Boat commander. We had a Mercury woody 1956 Monterey station wagon at the time. It had glass packs on it, and when he got a ticket for loud exhaust, he had to send in the ticket with a garage signing off that the work had been done. He went to a gas station that he had gone to for years to sign off. I don't know if they even replaced the mufflers, as it sounded the same.

It's not too easy to get Furin car parts in North Dakota. It being summer, I planned a trip to Winnipeg Manitoba Canada. The Rootes dealer might have a Tiger. More to follow.

Happy summer peaceful travels

Doug

Why

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why is the person who invests your money called a broker?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

Why do they sterilize the needle for lethal injection?

Why don't sheep shrink in the rain? Why do they call them apartments when they are all stuck together?

That's all folks!



Celebrations

By: Gene



BIRTHDAYS FOR JUNE

Lou Spradlin - 6

Steve Bradley - 16

2024 ABCC Upcoming Club Activities

Do you have an idea for an event? Contact Doug at pbullard@hotmail.com



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FENDER SKIRTS"

I came across this phrase in a book yesterday; "FENDER SKIRTS". A term I haven't heard in a long time - and thinking about "fender skirts" started me thinking about other words that quietly disappear from our language with hardly a notice.

Like "curb feelers" and "steering knobs." Since I'd been thinking of cars, my mind naturally went in that direction first. Any kids will probably have to find some elderly person over 50 to explain some of these terms to you.

Remember "Continental kits?" They were rear bumper extenders and spare tire covers that were supposed to make any car as cool as a Lincoln Continental.

When did we quit calling them "emergency brakes?" At some point "Parking brake" became the proper term. But I miss the hint of drama that went with "Emergency brake."

I'm sad, too, that almost all the old folks are gone who would call the accelerator the "foot feed." (or the throttle on the dashboard the "hand throttle")

Didn't you ever wait at the street for your daddy to come home, so you could ride the "running board" up to the house?

Here's a phrase I heard all the time in my youth but never anymore - "store-bought." Of course, just about everything is store-bought these days. But once it was bragging material to have a store-bought dress or a

Store-bought bag of candy.

"Coast to coast" is a phrase that once held all sorts of excitement and now means almost nothing. Now we take the term "worldwide" for granted. This floors me.

On a smaller scale, "wall-to-wall" was once a magical term in our homes. In the '50s, everyone covered his or her hardwood floors with, wow, wall-to-wall carpeting! Today, everyone replaces their wall-to-wall carpeting with hardwood floors. Go figure.

When's the last time you heard the quaint phrase "in a family way?" It's hard to imagine that the word "pregnant" was once considered a little too graphic, a little too clinical for use in polite company. So, we had all that talk about stork visits and "being in a family way" or simply "expecting."

Apparently "brassiere" is a word no longer in usage. I said it the other day and my daughter cracked up. I guess it's just "bra" now "Unmentionables" probably wouldn't be understood at all.

I always loved going to the "picture show," but I considered "movie" an affectation.

Most of these words go back to the '50s, but here's a pure-'60s word I came across the other day - "rat fink." Ooh, what a nasty put-down!

Here's a word I miss - "percolator." That was just a fun word to say. And what was it replaced with? "Coffeemaker." How dull. Mr. Coffee, I blame you for this.

I miss those made-up marketing words that were meant to sound so modern and now sound so retro. Words like "DynaFlow" and "Electrolux.," "Introducing the 1963 Admiral TV, now with "Spectra Vision!"

Food for thought - Was there a telethon that wiped out lumbago? Nobody complains of that anymore. Maybe that's what castor oil cured, because I never hear mothers threatening their kids with castor oil anymore.

Some words aren't gone but are on the endangered list. The one that grieves me most is "supper." Now everybody says "dinner." Save a great word... Invite someone to supper. Discuss fender skirts.

I'm really glad I knew these phrases I grew up in a really fun time!

Someone forwarded this to me. I thought some of us of a "certain age" would remember most of these. Just for fun, pass it along to others of that "certain age"

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.

Coming Events

JUNE 7-9, 2024 MOG South, Eastern Region, Spring Gathering. Morganton, NC - <http://www.mogsouth.com/calendar/>

JUNE 15-19, 2024 NAMGAR GT-49 Welches, OR - [GT-49 in Sports Car Heaven | NAMGAR](#)

JUNE 17-21, 2024 TRA National Meet – Perrysburg OH- <http://triumphregister.com/tra-national-meet/>

JUNE 20-23, 2024 Mid-Ohio Speedtour. Lexington, OH - www.svra.com/

JUNE 20-23, 2024 Sahlen’s Six Hours of the Glen. Watkins Glen, NY www.imsa.com

JUNE 22-23, 2024 SCCA SOLO II (Autocross). Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, FL – <https://autocross.cfrscca.org/>

JULY 1-4, 2024 IMSA Sports car Weekend. Road America. Plymouth, WI /www.imsa.com/events/

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JULY 11-14, 2024 Goodwood Festival of Speed. Chichester, England – www.goodwood.co.uk/

JULY 19-20, 2024 Lime Rock July Speed Tour, Lakeville, CT - <https://svra.com/>

JULY 21- AUG 25, 2024 Pittsburg Vintage Grand Prix. Pittsburg, PA – www.pvgrp.org

JULY 25-28, 2024 New Jersey Speedtour. Millville, NJ - www.svra.com

JULY 26-28, 2024 Annual Caladium Festival. Lake Placid, FL – www.lpfla.com/

JULY 27, 2024 Annual Caladium Festival Car Show. Lake Placid, FL – www.lpfla.com/

JULY 27, 2024 British Cars of New Hampshire 24th Annual Show of Dreams. Hudson, NH - www.bcnh.org

AUGUST 2-4, 2024 Out of the Woodwork 2024. Pittsburg, PA - www.tvrcna.org/

AUGUST 3-4, 2024 SCCA SOLO II (Autocross). Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, FL – <https://autocross.cfrscca.org/>

AUGUST 3-4, 2024 International Car Show. Pittsburg, PA – <https://www.pvgrp.org/>

AUGUST 10-11, 2024 Mount Equinox Hill Climb. Arlington, VT – www.vscca.org

AUGUST 17, 2024 Return of the British. Rugby, TN - <http://www.pbcctn.org/>

SEPTEMBER 8-12 2024 VTR National 2024. Nashville, IN - [2024 Vintage Triumph Register National Convention \(regfox.com\)](#)

SEPTEMBER 15-20, 2024 Austin Healey Conclave. Elkhart Lake, WI. – [Home - Austin Healey Club of America, Inc.](#)



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