

The British Connection

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President's Message

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Hello everyone. Summer has begun in earnest. I hope everyone is in good health and enjoying life. Right side of the grass and all that.

(Continued from last month)

I planned a trip to Winnipeg, Manitoba to get a couple chrome strips from the Rootes dealer. About 150 miles. The border was no problem back then. It was more like we were part of the same country. Pull up to the guard shack, answer a couple questions and be on your way. The trip was plains boring. Flat with large plots of earth in hay or wheat or soybeans. Not much to see or focus on except the long straight road.



I had a map of Winnipeg. There was no GPS or google maps or internet for that matter. I was surprised at the electric buses with overhead electric wires running everywhere. There were other culture shocks, also. English cars everywhere, many that I had to check out from a distance, as I thought I knew what they were, but had to make sure. There were electrical plugs at all the parking meters, so you could plug your engine heater in, and the engine would start in -40 winter weather.

I made it to the Rootes dealer. There was a Tyger on the showroom floor. It looked nice but was obviously used. I went to the parts and ordered a bunch of chrome bits and bought what they had in stock. The guy said they would send the rest when it came in. Good for me so I didn't have to do another trip to Winnipeg.

After that I went about drooling over the Tiger that they had. I asked if it would be possible to drive it, as there were no others around.

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They agreed to let me drive it. I'm sure they didn't expect me to be gone long. But I had another store in Winnipeg that I was looking for. I never did find the other location I was looking for. I was gone for about 2 hours. Time flies when you're having fun. I was told when I got back that that Tiger was a race car set up for the Canadian SCCA (whatever it's called). Looking back, it must have been worrisome for them as the car was probably on consignment.

Needless to say, I was hooked. Just like anyone I knew later that I would let drive my Tiger. They would usually buy a Tiger later. I've always had a Tiger from that point on, although the first one didn't happen until about 2 years after the trip to Winnipeg, and it was an ex-SCCA race car. A co-worker (Dave Hol-lern) and I traded a couple Tigers back and forth after we started working together. He bought his first from me after I decided it had too much rust for me. It was a very small amount for Ohio, but always looking for perfection. And I got that car back after he took it apart in his parents' garage. They were great people, but probably wanted their garage back. I bought it back in pieces and put it back together.

We had many neat cars in town, especially for being in the frozen tundra. We had UND the University of North Dakota. We also had a big SAC air base with Air Force personnel coming and going. There was one Tiger in town. The guy used it to flat tow a Sprite race car. He traded up to an XKE, but not before he ordered 1967 427 Corvette with factory air. That Corvette sat on the Chevrolet dealer's lot for 6 months after he didn't take it.

Happy and safe travels.

Doug

Automobile truths

As the owner of an Italian vehicle, you have undoubtedly found that, from time to time, the thing defies all known laws of Physics. Distinguished researchers from all over the world have spent entire lives trying to understand such phenomena. Recently, the Six Laws of Italian Sports Cars were discovered, thus reducing most owners' dependency on sorcerers and prayer, to keep such cars running. Careless application of these laws to any individual auto may fix the problems of the moment, but cause hives or allergies in said owners.

1) THE LAW OF PLEASING DESIGN WHERE IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER

"The inside of cam covers or other relatively innocuous areas, shall be laced with buttresses, cross-bracing and all manner of esoteric stiffness-with-lightness design, while something like connecting rods shall self-destruct at redline plus 1.0 rpm due to a basic lack of strength." An example of this Law is the stunningly beautiful Lamborghini or Ferrari V-12's of the late '60's. They were famous for wearing out all four camshafts in 10,000 miles or less. The cam's metal appeared to be recycled coat hangers, which coincidentally are still in short supply in Italy.

2) THE LAW OF NON-FUNCTIONAL APPARATUS

"All Italian Sports Cars, regardless of age, shall have at least one system or component which does not work, and cannot be repaired. Such a part shall never be mentioned in the Official Shop Manual, although there may be an out-of-focus picture shown." It goes without saying that such parts should never under any circumstances be removed, lest



Celebrations

By: Gene



BIRTHDAYS FOR JUNE

Art Patstone July 19

Kathy Kufeldt July 23

ANNIVERSARIES

Burt and Celia Martin July 27

2024 ABCC Upcoming Club Activities

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

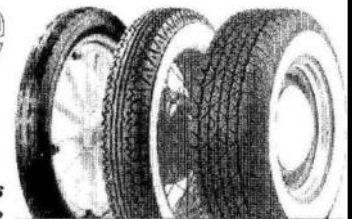


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the natural balance of the car be upset.

3) THE LAW OF ELECTRICAL CHAOS

"All Italian Sports Cars shall be wired at the Factory by a cross-eyed, color-blind worker, using whatever supplies are within reach. All wires shall change color-code at least once between energy source and component. All grounds shall be partially insulated." This tends to guarantee that the owner of such vehicles will eventually be intimately familiar with its electrical system, since he will need to trace out each wire, and then rewrite his Official Schematic, which will differ from all others in at least one area.

4) THE LAW OF PERSONAL ABUSE

"The more an Italian auto breaks down, the more endearing it becomes to its increasingly irrational owner." For example, you purchase an Italian Sports car, for all the money you ever hoped to earn, and receive a ticket for air pollution on the way home from the dealer due to the vast clouds of smoke that follow you. Several return trips to said dealer, accompanied by your rapidly dwindling cash reserves, cures the smoking. But now, the engine sounds like a food processor full of ball bearings. After replacing every component in the car, including the radio speakers, the noise vanishes and is replaced by an odor reminiscent of a major fire in a goat-hair mattress factory. You still keep trying, God help you.

5) THE LAW OF UNAVAILABLE PARTS

"All parts of an Italian sports car shall be made of a material that is available in inverse proportion to its operating half-life."

Thus, the speedometer hold-down screws are made of grade 8 cold-rolled steel, while the valves are of fabricated Unobtanium, made only at midnight by an old man with a pointy hat covered with moons and stars. Such parts will be backordered during the design phase of the car, and will remain so forever. Bribes, pleading and threats will be ignored.\

6) THE LAW OF CRYPTIC INSTRUCTIONS

"Any official publications dealing with repair, maintenance or operations of an Italian sports car, shall be written such that every fourth word is incomprehensible to the average American. In the event that a random sentence is understandable, its information shall be wrong." This is also known as flat-tire English, where a sentence flows along nicely, then-Kaboom!

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

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.pvgp.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.tvrccna.org/

AUGUST 3, 2024 39th British Car Day. Dayton, OH - <http://www.britishcardaydayton.com/>

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.pvgp.org/>

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

August 15-18, 2024 TE/AE United 41 West Lebanon, NH - www.teae.org

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

AUGUST 23, 2024 30th Anniversary British Car Festival. Altoona, PA - [Home - Central PA British Car Club, Inc](http://www.home-central-pa-british-car-club.com)

AUGUST 25, 2024 “A Taste of Britain” Rothsville, PA - www.lancomgclub.com

AUGUST 30 - SEPT. 2 2024 Lime Rock Historic Festival (VSCCA). Lakeville, CT – www.vscca.org

SEPTEMBER 2-3, 2024 Beaulieu International Autojumble. [Beaulieu, Hampshire, England – www.beaulieu.co.uk](http://www.beaulieu.co.uk)

SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2024 Brits of the Shoals Gathering. Rogersville, AL. – <http://www.shoalsbritishcars.org/>

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 Atlanta British Car Fayre. Norcross, GA - [Atlanta British Car Fayre - Annual British Car Show](http://www.atlantabritishcars.com)

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2024 Goodwood Revival, Chichester, England – [Goodwood Revival | Event Coverage | Videos & Latest News](http://www.goodwoodrevival.com)

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 Fallfest 2024. Randolph Twp., NJ. - [NEW JERSEY TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION - Car Shows, British Cars \(njtriumphs.org\)](http://www.njtriumphs.org)

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

SEPTEMBER 15-20, 2024 Austin Healey Conclave. Elkhart Lake, WI. – [Home - Austin Healey Club of America, Inc.](http://www.austinhealeyclub.com)



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