

The British Connection

Volume 2024 Issue 8

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President's Message

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Hello all and I hope everyone survived the latest tropical storm/ hurricane. Not much on the Atlantic side. I think we got about 1.5 inches of rain.

We continue with " how we got where we are, automotive version". After the Hillman Minx convertible 1961 version, I traded it for something my parents could use (a real car). I was going off to college in Ohio. I had found a 1965 Plymouth Sport Fury that had been owned and ordered new by a state highway patrolman. It was set up as the highway patrol cars were. It had 383 cu in 4-bbl engine with auto transmission, and I believe a limited slip rear of 2.94 gears. It had the sport fury package which included bucket seats and console. Also, power steering and power brakes. It had air conditioning, too. The summer I graduated; the temperatures were 90-100 degrees almost every day. So, the air was welcome. What a boat, typical of American cars at the time.



Somewhere along in there, I had bought a 1957 Ford Fairlane 500 4 door for \$25,312, 3 speed overdrive. I let the mechanic at the Texaco that I worked at have the overdrive as he had 1957 Ford Ranchero. He did all the work of swapping the 2 transmissions between the cars. It was a good-looking car, with all the chrome of the upscale Fairlane 500.

My best friend across the street (we did most everything together) had found a 1961 Corvette and bought it. I can't remember why we replaced the engine, if he bought the car that way or what. Anyway, we had found a guy at the local machine shop that had an engine for sale. We put that in the car. When we started it, the thing started banging loudly. Being punk kids, neither of us had ever heard anything like that. We drove the car down to the machine shop, and the guy told us we had probably dropped a nut or washer down the intake when we were putting it together. Of course, with all the clarity of a couple punk kids, we swore we hadn't. Amazingly, the guy said he'd make it good. But he wasn't taking it out or putting it back.

(Continued on page 2)



That job fell to me. Tommy, my buddy, was working on a farm about 100 miles west of town. I told him to take the 57 Ford, and I'd take the engine out. I had to take it back to the machine shop, etc. After I got it running again, I was driving it (you got to make sure it runs well), late at night, and got stopped for whatever reason. For having a Corvette in a neighborhood where it didn't belong. I think they may have woken Tommy's parents up to see if I really should have that car.

The time came for me and Tommy to swap cars. I drove the Corvette out to the farm where he worked. There sat the 57 Ford with the left front corner scrunched. Tommy had hit a deer with the car. Not so bad, except the car had a real oil pressure gauge. The plastic line to the gauge had melted on the exhaust manifold. The car had pumped all its oil out. Tommy begged me to tell his parents that I hit the deer, so he wouldn't get in trouble. And I did. I went to college with no car. Such is life.

Happy travels.

Doug

Sprite's amazing storage

A man with a big Rolls Royce is driving along on a hot, hot day when he passes this little car, bombing along, top down, with the cooling breeze blowing through the driver's hair. "Air Conditioning" shouts the Sprite driver as the Rolls goes by.

Not to be outdone the Rolls owner goes straight round to the dealer and orders an expensive air conditioning system. A few days later he passes the Sprite again. This time it is parked up under a tree and the driver is leaning back enjoying a snooze. Hell, look at that fella, he can sleep in his car he thinks, and goes back to the dealer.

He spends thousands of Pounds getting the chassis lengthened even further and having a huge double bed installed in the back. Next day is pouring rain, but, keen to show off his latest addition to the Rolls, he sets off to look for the Sprite owner. Sure enough he soon finds the little car parked up at the side of the road in the torrential rain, windows all steamed up (Any Spridget owner will immediately recognize this situation, except possibly those of you in California) He jumps out of his Rolls and rushes over to the Sprite, hammering on the window, which after a moment or two is opened an inch or two.

"My car's just as good as yours," he says, "now I can sleep in my car too. I've had a huge luxurious double bed fitted" At this the Sprite driver is annoyed, "you mean to say you got me out of the shower just to tell me that!"





Celebrations

By: Gene



BIRTHDAYS FOR AUGUST

Vic Hall

Bob Storke - 8/10

Lucie Kooy 8/21

Sylvia Thomas 8/24

2024 ABCC Upcoming Club Activities

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

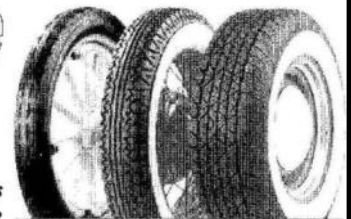


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Pre-registration \$50

Show Day registration \$55



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

AUGUST 10-11, 2024 Mount Equinox Hill Climb. Arlington, VT – www.vscce.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 21-25, 2024 Mission Foods Watkins Glen Speedtour - Watkins Glen, NY - www.svra.com

AUGUST 23, 2024 30th Anniversary British Car Festival. Altoona, PA - [Home - Central PA British Car Club, Inc](http://Home-Central-PA-British-Car-Club-Inc)

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.vscce.org

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://Atlanta-British-Car-Fayre-Annual-British-Car-Show)

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2024 The British Invasion. Stowe, VT – www.britishinvasion.com

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2024 Put-In-Bay Reunion Road Race. Put-In-Bay, OH - www.pibroadrace.com

SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2024 Fall Historics (HSR), Road Atlanta, [Braselton, GA](http://Braselton-GA) - www.hsrrace.com

SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2024 SCCA SOLO II (Autocross). Daytona International Speedway, Daytona Beach, FL – <https://autocross.cfrscca.org/>

SEPTEMBER. 14-21, 2024 6-Pack Trials “Two-For”. Oakville, Ontario. CA to Corning, NY - 6-Pack Car Club [2024 Trials – 6-Pack Car Club](http://2024-Trials-6-Pack-Car-Club)

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2024 Watkins Glen International. Watkins Glen, NY - <http://www.vrgonline.org>

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 Brits on the Beach. Ocean Grove, NJ - [BRITS ON THE BEACH 2024 \(pedc.org\)](http://BRITS-ON-THE-BEACH-2024-pedc.org)

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 19th Annual British Car Day. Skippack Village, PA – www.DVCMG.com

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 Memphis Euro Fest. Germantown, TN - www.memphisbritishcars.org

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 Autumn in the Mountains British Car Gathering. Mills River, NC- <https://www.bccwnc.org/autumn-in-the-mountains-car-show/>

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2024 Lotus Owner Gathering, LOG 43. Auston, TX– <https://lotusltd.com/>

OCTOBER 14, 2024 British Car Classic. King's Head Pub, St. Augustine, FL - <https://www.mgclassicsfl.org/>



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