

The British Connection

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November 2024

President's Message

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Hello everyone and happy Halloween. Let's go back to how we got to where we are, the automotive version. Some of you may remember me mentioning growing up in the great white north. Cars were and still are mostly just an appliance.

My good friend who lived across the street from me and I were car crazy even at a young age. Still in elementary school, we noticed all the cars old and new. Behind Tommy's house, across the alley and on the next street was a big old house with just an old lady living in it, or so we thought. We had never seen anyone else. The house had a detached garage that you entered from the alley. Never saw the doors open. It was just there. One day we were just messing around and noticed that the door was open. The door slid to the side accordion style. We rode our bikes over (not that far really). Inside was a car that I thought I knew about but had never seen in the flesh. There was also a young man that neither of us had ever seen there. He had backed the car out and was washing it. Being kids, we started asking questions. It was an early 50's MG TD. In a cream color with green interior. After we had worn the poor guy out with questions, of course we asked the most important question. "Can we have a ride?" We were disappointed when he said no, but then said maybe sometime in the future. This was summertime.



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You can bet the garage doors were never opened in the winter. It may have been later that summer or the next summer, we did get our ride. We were out being kids, and the guy made a point to corral us. Then we noticed the car was out and running. We got our ride. Not much distance but good for us.

Living in the frozen tundra, summer was the time for cars. In our area there was a guy that owned a chain of independent gas stations. He was always buying factory hot cars. He had a Bonneville salt flats car. It was out in front of one of his stations just sitting there. Probably to catch some extra business. It was a '53 Studebaker coupe. It had the number 288 on the side with the class, which I don't remember. Being young, I asked in the station about the car. I knew it had a Chrysler hemi with a blower. One of the guys in the station said the number was how fast it went. Even though I was young I wasn't buying that. This guy had a rivalry with a guy who lived about a block from me. That guy had a stationary store downtown. When I was older, the gas station guy had one of the first big block Corvettes. My neighbor had one of the first Plymouth GTX with 426 hemi. Just as a side note the gas station guy owned a real Cobra Daytona coupe. Bought it for \$6000. It wasn't fast enough. He had a 302 built for it (just an old race car remembers) and sold it for \$12000.

I had a paper route (didn't every young male?) and on my paper route there lived a guy who had a real 300SL gullwing. "Please don't lean on the car. It's aluminum." Also on the paper route was a Dodge Chrysler Dodge truck dealership. I would stop there to get warm on bitter days. Alright, I stopped every day. Sat in the cars, perused the brochures, picked out what I would like to buy, went out in the garage and watched a little bit. No wonder it took so long to deliver papers.

Happy travels.

Doug

Tech Tip Encore - Side Curtain Rubber Repair AMCO Side curtain

Tech Tip from Jeff Zorn.

While trying to locate the rubber that goes around the 'AMCO' style aluminum side curtains for my MGA I was stymied. This molding is about 1 1/2 inches high, about 1/8 inch thick (maybe a little thicker) and had a round bead on it that slides into the aluminum channel on the side curtain. I had tried most everywhere, including all the major supply houses, rubber and seal makers, and local auto window replacement shops. No one was able to help me with this problem, one that others may have. I could find nothing about replacement rubber in the NAMGAR Tech Tips from MGA or in the A-Antics Tech Tips Manual.

Distraught and very cold and wet on some days, I was about ready to pop for the \$600 (much less from LBCarCo.com) or so to replace the set of side curtains. At Indy '96 I spoke to several other folks, and no one had any ideas. While strolling through the booths, I happened to walk by a vendor that had a display and saw that they had rubber molding that fits under the front windshield. It is the Bottom Windshield Seal-Frame to Body; Moss part number is 680-470. It was about the required height, just slightly thinner, and it had a rectangular bead at the base instead of round. At \$25.00 each, I figured I would need 2 for each window frame - \$100.00 (less from LBCarCo.com of course) total - so I bought them.

I finally got around to attempting putting them in the frame. With a little bit of cooking oil, which I put on the aluminum track, and some elbow grease, I was able to pull the rubber around the frame. For each frame, I used one piece for the sides and top, and one piece for the bottom track. I then used a heat gun (a good hair dryer may work) to help form the top two rounded edges and to keep them from curling one way or the other, which will now give me a tighter fit. Or you can cut the rubber at the top rear corner and then attach with strong water-resistant glue another piece of rubber to make essentially a V there which will help keep the rubber from curling excessively.

All in all it works and, for a total cost of about \$100.00, it was well worth it (24 years later still working well).



Celebrations

By: Gene



November Happy Birthday's

B.A. WALTERS - 3RD

DICK GOUDY - 15TH

2023 ABCC Upcoming Club Activities

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

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The Adventures of Ol' Red & British Car Week
by Scott G. Helms

There once was a proud little shiny British car,
It was painted bright red and could be seen from afar.

The paint was brand new and the leather was fresh,
the mechanics were as tight as a clockmakers best.

Its owner was as happy as a man could be,
because when he drove his little British car he felt so free.

Every time the two of them set out for who knows where,
they knew they could forget about their worldly cares.

They shifted through the gears with such great finesse,
and where they'd end up would be anyone's guess.

A loop-dee-loop here and a hairpin turn there,
the straight-aways were a rev-counter redline dare.

That old farm tractor-like engine would grunt and groan,
it would rattle the wall hangings inside any nearby home.

The roarty exhaust could be heard for many country miles, it appeared
to provide the lonely farm animals with some much-needed smiles.

The beautiful green landscape was a sight to behold;
their bountiful journeys were full of stories to be told.

The road ahead was full of hidden treasures,
and they'd always choose the twisty roads just for good measure.

But then one day the owner heard a funny noise.
And put Ol' Red away in a dark place where it would lose its happy poise.

The lights were turned off and the fresh air was all but gone,
what was intended to be days turned into a period much too long.

Those long days turned to weeks, the weeks turned to months,
The months turned to years, and when Ol' Red would see daylight again
wasn't even a hunch.

(Continued next month.)

For Sale or Wanted

If you are looking for an item related to your LBC or you have something automotive to sell.
Send the information to me and I will run it in this section for 3 months or sold.

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER 3, 2024 TCVCC Cool Car Show. Stuart, FL – [Cool Show - Treasure Coast Region AACA](#)

NOVEMBER 10, 2024 Orlando Festivals of Speed at the Ritz-Carlton. Orlando, FL - [Ritz-Carlton Orlando | Festivals of Speed](#)

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2024 Annual Turkey Bowl, Summit Point, WV - www.vrgonline.org

NOVEMBER 16, 2024 Ancient City Auto Club – 40th Annual Car Show. St Augustine, FL - <http://ancientcity.aaca.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/ShowFlyer2024.pdf>

NOVEMBER 28 – DEC. 1, 2024 Daytona Turkey Run. Daytona Beach, FL – www.turkeyrun.com

NOVEMBER 29, 2024 Gas light parade and block party. Ormond Beach, FL. – 386-679-2883 [66th Annual Gaslight Parade - Volusia Region AACA](#)

NOVEMBER 30, 2024 Ormond Beach Antique Car Show. Ormond Beach – 386-679-2883

DECEMBER 4-8, 2024 Classic Sebring 12 Hr. & Sebring Historics (HSR). Sebring FL - www.hsrrace.com

DECEMBER 13-15, 2024 VDCA Season Finale. Roebing Roads Raceway, Bloomingdale, GA. - www.vintagedrive.com/

JANUARY 3-19 2025 Mecum Auction. Kissimmee, FL. - www.Mecum.com

JANUARY 17-19, 2025 “Roar before the Rolex 24” IMSA test days. Daytona Beach, FL - <http://www.imsa.com/>

JANUARY 23-26, 2025 Cavallino Classic, Ferrari Gathering. Palm Beach, FL. – <http://www.cavallinoclassic.com/>

FEBRUARY 10, 2025 Sir John Black’s Birthday drive your Triumph Day. – Worldwide event

MARCH 1, 2025 Annual Strawberry Festival and Car Show. Ocala, FL - [Habitat Ocala Strawberry Festival - Habitat for Humanity of Marion County](#)

JULY 15-18, 2025 Vintage Triumph Register (VTR) National Convention. La Crosse, WI - <https://www.mntriumphs.org/vtr2025/>



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