

The British Connection

Volume 2025 Issue 2

February 2025

President's Message

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Hello and happy warmer weather.

So, here I am with no means of transport, with a car in a million pieces. I can't really remember, but somehow I got all the pieces to my one room efficiency apartment just off campus. I must have used a friend or a friend's car. One of my friends had an Austin Healey 3000, but it was apart at the Austin Healey, MG, Datsun dealership. I'm not really sure, but I think that he had access to a car.



After gathering all the pieces, and bringing them to my little humble abode, I started assembling smaller pieces into larger parts. There was a good-sized Ford dealer just a couple blocks south of me. I made friends with one of the parts guys that been there for a while. He was a big help. He was interested in helping some dumb kid put a car together. He had a 1965-66 Thunderbird convertible red with red interior. I found out later that he and his father had built a 1/4 scale steam tractor that they took around to old time farm shows. He took a real interest in me and the car. As an aside, he said he could tell it was me coming down the street after the car was built, as the plate glass windows would rattle in the showroom.

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Whenever I needed something, I would go down there. If I couldn't tell how something was supposed to go together, he would get out the factory manuals and help me out.

So, we are working through the engine. I've got another problem. I've got 5-pin knock off hubs, with no wheels. I started asking around about roundy-round racers and who might be able to make wheels. Somebody said that there was an older guy up off Hudson Avenue that might be able to help. I went looking for him and got lucky. He was where people said he would be. He was working out of a little garage behind his house. I had taken one of the knock offs off the hub on the front. I took it to him along with what I wanted, a 13 x 7 wheel with 5 pin drive. He said he would do it. He was used to working with the oval racers. Knew exactly what I wanted. So, he has my knock off (down to 3 now). I can't believe how trusting I was being. I hadn't heard from him for the longest time. I got in touch with his wife, she said he had been ill. Might have said something about the heart. Kids don't listen. I had to have the wheels to move the car. About a week later she called me to come pick up the wheels. I never saw the guy again. She was there when I went to get the wheels.

As an aside two were straight, two were not. once I figured that out, I put the Two straight ones on the front, when I figured out which they were.

I had a girlfriend that later became my wife. Her father had a granite brick house that he had built on the west side of town. I took the car out to his house, once it rolled. He was very gracious in allowing me to put the car in a basement garage that was heated as the furnace was right there. I then started putting the car together.

more to follow happy travels.

Doug Bullard



The Michigan Rowdies are excited to invite you to GT-50 in Traverse City, Michigan. The Rowdies have hosted GTs 10, 20, 30 & 40 and are determined to make GT-50 the best ever. Help us celebrate 50 years of get-togethers in one of the most popular vacation spots in Michigan.

Mark your calendars now for June 2 through 6, 2025 and watch for more information.

[NAMGAR Michigan Chapter Rowdies](#)

[Events | NAMGAR](#)



Celebrations

By: Gene



February Birthdays

Bonita Dotten 2/7

Roger Sieling 2/17

Anniversary

Bob & Betty Storke - 2/13

2023 ABCC Upcoming Club Activities

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

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Subject: Top Ten Reasons Why MGAs Don't Have Door Handles (Author unknown)

10. Afraid the rain might get in.
9. Never expected the car to be driven.
8. Brits didn't know which end of the door to put them on.
7. The technology was too advanced.
6. Designers went to tea.
5. Shortage of pot metal in England at the time.
4. Didn't think the Yanks would notice.
3. It was either roll-up windows or door handles, and they screwed up both.
2. They had to save one good idea for the MGB.
1. One less thing to go wrong.

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

FEBRUARY 15, 2025 30th Annual All Brit Car Show. Broward Mall, Plantation, FL - www.goldcoastbritcar.com/

FEBRUARY 16, 2025 Annual Festivals of Speed. Vinoy Park St. Petersburg, FL - <https://www.festivalspeed.com/>

FEBRUARY 20-23, 2025 Sebring Speed Tour (SVRA) Sebring Raceway, Sebring, FL - www.svra.com/

FEBRUARY 22, 2025 18th Annual International Automotive Excellence Gala. Fort Lauderdale, FL - [International Automotive Encéllense Gala | Supporting the BGCBC](#)

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

MARCH 6-9, 2025 HSR Spring Fling. Sebring, FL www.hsrrace.com

MARCH 6-9, 2025 Amelia Island Car Show. Amelia Island, FL. – www.ameliaconcours.org

MARCH 12-15, 2025 Sebring Support races. Sebring, FL - www.imsa.com

MARCH 12-15, 2025 Mobil 1 12 hrs. of Sebring. Sebring, FL. - www.imsa.com

MARCH 29, 2025 British Motoring Festival, Tammany Trace Covington, LA - www.bmcno.org/

MARCH 20-23, 2025 Atlanta Speed Tour, Road Atlanta. Braselton, GA - www.svra.com/

MARCH 21-23, 2025 35th Annual Spring Turkey Run. Daytona Beach, FL - <http://www.turkeyrun.com>

MARCH 29, 2025 “[British Italian German](#)” (BIG) car show. Cape Coral, FL - <https://bccswf.com/events-experiences/>

APRIL 5, 2025 40th Annual British Car Show. Henry’s Depot, Sanford, FL
<https://www.britishcarclubofcentralflorida.com/>

APRIL 12, 2025 3rd Annual British and European Car Show 3500 Sarno Rd., Melbourne, FL - [2024 British and European Car Show \(americanmusclecarmuseum.com\)](#)



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