

ABCS Newsletter



January 2005

Volume 14 Issue 1

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY, January 13, 2005 – RUSH STREET GRILL

Minutes of the ABCS Meeting For December 8, 2004

By: Greg Bowman

Gael Bright, President, conducted the meeting. Ken Hampton, Vice-President opened the meeting with prayer. 28 members were in attendance.

Club Business:

Al Calcote, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented nominations for officers for 2005. Nominations were as follows:

Ben Bailey	President
Paul Kern	Vice-President
Juan Dominguez	Secretary
Al Bradley	Treasurer

There being no other nominations, a motion was made that the above be elected by acclamation. The motion carried.

Regalia:

Al Bradley had for sale:

T-Shirts	\$10
Caps	\$15
Sweatshirts	\$20

It says "had" because the box containing Al's clothing emporium has disappeared. Please let Al know if you have seen it.

Program:

The annual gift exchange was thoroughly enjoyed by all, particularly Sam Bowman, who received a hammer, and immediately began putting it to use.

Upcoming Programs:

January: Auction of donated items from Moss, LB Car Co, etc.

February: Herren Floyd will share photos from his and Otti's trip to Germany.

March: Ron Bussey will discuss scooter (Vespa's, etc.) restoration.

Editors note:

I would like to thank everyone for your support over the past two years. Your effort made my job as newsletter editor much easier.

Juan Dominguez has accepted the Secretary/Newsletter editor position. Please lend him your support!



Don't forget to pay your 2005 membership dues.

Our MGB and Snow in Alabama

By Herren Floyd

I was reminded about this story by a recent discussion about whether to drive or not to drive an MG in snow.

I bought our new MGB in 1963 from a dealer in Birmingham, Alabama when I lived in Huntsville and worked for the space program at Marshall Space Flight Center during the moon race of the 1960s. For a time, it was the only car we owned. Our two children, Carl and his sister, Jeanette, were small enough to sit on the little platform behind the two seats. I built a removable plywood platform, and Otti made a thick pad for it so that they could lie down and sleep on long trips.

We were invited to visit and play cards one evening by a former neighbor that had moved out in the country several miles from town. They had four kids, so of course we brought our two with us. Snow was predicted for that evening. There was already considerable snow on the county roads as we drove out there, but our MGB handled it very well.

When it was about time to head back home late that evening, we discovered that an accumulation of some twelve inches of snow had fallen during our visit, and our MBG was completely hidden under a snowdrift. Our friend had a very large yard with a long U-shaped driveway with two entrances wide apart at the road, all of which was now very deep in snow. Yes, I know it isn't supposed to snow like that in Alabama, but this is a true story. I'm sure there must be a record of a very unusual twelve-inch snow in North Alabama one winter in the mid 1960s.

We had no choice but to spend the night at our friends' house. Early the next morning, we awoke to the sound of a truck desperately racing its motor and spinning its wheels. My friend and I dressed and went out to investigate. Across the road was a county work crew trying in vain to get their truck out of the ditch. With our additional help they were just barely able to push it back onto the road. I pointed out the mound of snow that covered our MGB. They laughed and thanked us and left to go get their snow plow.

Later that morning, the truck came by clearing the road with the snow plow. When they came to my friend's house, they turned into his driveway and cleared all of it from one entrance to the other which took them right alongside our MGB in front of the house. It took us a while to uncover the MG and some shoving to get it all the way into the driveway, but with the driveway and road now cleared, we were able to head home. Eventually we caught up with the truck and snow plow and had to follow it the rest of the way to a main road.

After that I bought snow chains for the back wheels of our MGB to use in winter until we could afford to buy a second car. They did very well, but they never saw a snow anything like that one. I'm glad I still have that 1963 MGB. I wish I still had the 1948 Volkswagen Beetle that Otti and I bought in 1957 in Germany after we were married there, and brought with us to the United States .

APPALACHIAN BRITISH CAR SOCIETY
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ HOME PHONE (____) _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____ WORK PHONE (____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ DATE: _____

CARS:	MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	COLOR
#1	_____	_____	_____	_____
#2	_____	_____	_____	_____
#3	_____	_____	_____	_____

**DUES ARE PRORATED ACCORDING TO
THE MONTH IN WHICH YOU JOIN:**

January-March	\$20.00
April-June	15.00
July-September	10.00
October-December	20.00 <i>(includes following year's dues)</i>
All Renewals	15.00 (due February 28 of each year)

Enclose payment with application and mail to:
 Appalachian British Car Society
 c/o Al Bradley, Treasurer
 143 Stonewall Heights
 Abingdon, VA 24210

All meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month at the Rush Street Grill in Kingsport, TN

ABCS / Juan Dominguez
1016 Morrell t.
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TO: