

ABCS Newsletter



June 2003

Volume 12 Issue 6

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY, June 12, 2003 – RUSH STREET GRILL

Minutes of the ABCS Meeting For May 8, 2003

Gael Bright, President, conducted the meeting. 18 Members and two guests were in attendance. Welcome to Jim and Caffie West who rejoined.

Two British cars were in attendance, a Series 1 Jaguar XKE and an MGB.

Al Bradley has for sale:

T-Shirts \$10
Caps \$15
Sweat shirts \$20

Randy Still presented a program on his Road Trips, most of which were related to his collection



of Franklins. Randy showed pictures of his beautiful cars, one of which was utilized in the opening scenes of the movie **Cider House Rules**.

Randy and his Franklin have previously participated in the Cincinnati Concours d'Elegance.



Randy's trips included the Franklin Centennial in Syracuse, NY, the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance and next a trip to the Franklin Museum in Arizona.

Next Month: Bill Roope on Body Repair (sorry cars only).

Upcoming Drives:

May 24 to Andrew Johnson's home in Greeneville, Tennessee. Meet at the Sears store in Johnson City at 9:00 a.m.

End of August: Overnight trip on Blue Ridge Parkway with stay at Peaks of the Otter.

Upcoming Events:

Gathering of the faithful at Presbyterian College, Clinton, S.C. Memorial Day Weekend.

Drive Your British Car Week Gathering at Gourmet & Co. May 28 at 6:00p.m. Free coffee and cookies. Drive your British Car. The first 25 arrivals will receive dash plaques. **Please call (423-929-9007) for reservations if you would like to eat a gourmet meal.**

British Car Day South in Clemmons, North Carolina, June 7&8.

Sycamore Shoals Celtic Festival in September.

Tech Tip: MGB Windscreen installation

By: Greg Bowman

I recently finished the dreaded windscreen installation on my MGB with much technical advice from Tom Bedenbaugh of Import and Sports in Memphis. With his tips, installation was at least tolerable. With this and the heater box installation I now feel as if I've been thoroughly steeped in British car mechanics.

Removal:

It is just possible to loosen the four bolts holding the legs on the windscreen under the dash without removing the dash. However, I decided I would never get the bolts back in without crossthreading, so I removed the multiple nuts along the back edge of the dashboard and pulled it out enough to get good access to the bolts. One of those ratcheting box end wrenches is invaluable for removing the four bolts. (I found a set of four wrenches at that most hated of places, Wal-mart, for \$10).

Once the bolts are removed, tilt the windscreen forward and remove the two center rod bolts. Now the windscreen should lift right off.

Seal Replacement:

I got all new seals from macgregorukcarparts.com. Go to the website, look up what you need and call them. Martin MacGregor is expensive, but the seals are all O.E. quality.

The seal around the windshield just fits easily around the glass. Next take the windshield frame apart. Remove the screws along the top of the frame first. Note where they were, some are longer than others and this is important. Next remove the side post from the bottom channel. It

looks easiest to remove the bottom screws, but don't. The best way to take the post off of the lower frame member is to take the two screws out at the post bracket connection, which are inside the side post. They come out real easy. The ones on the bottom are usually welded with rust.

Next I put the lower frame into a vice. With an art type paint brush put some dishwashing soap in the track and on the rubber. Push the windscreen to body seal in the groove. Now all I had to do was trim it off, put the 4 screws back in that hold the post to the bottom frame. I did smear some clear silicone on the post and the end of the bottom rail where the butted up to each other. I also put a glob of it in that corner.

Then I stuck my finger in the soap and put it in the groove for the glass, and on the glass seal. Set the glass in the frame, positioning it from the front of the frame. Place the top rail in place, making sure to slide the top brackets back in first and tighten the center rod to pull the upper rail down. Last I put a pipe clamp at the top of the post and pulled the post together. Lined up the screw holes and you have one built windscreen

Installing the frame:

The windscreen to body seal curls up under itself, making it difficult to place the windscreen back on the car. Cut several long strips of duct tape, then cut much shorter pieces of duct tape and affix them to the middle of the longer strips so that the adhesive sides are together. Wrap this duct tape around the windshield to pull the seal out.

Place the windshield on the car, cut the duct tape and pull it out and now you have the seal perfectly in place. Put a bead of sealant under the seal and your ready to install the bolts.

The bolts can be aligned by using a large C clamp. Put some tape on top of the windscreen post leg to keep from marring it and a paint stick under the riveted on box that covers the post leg. Now just use the clamp to pull the windscreen down until the bolts are aligned.

Finally, go pray that you never have to do this job again.

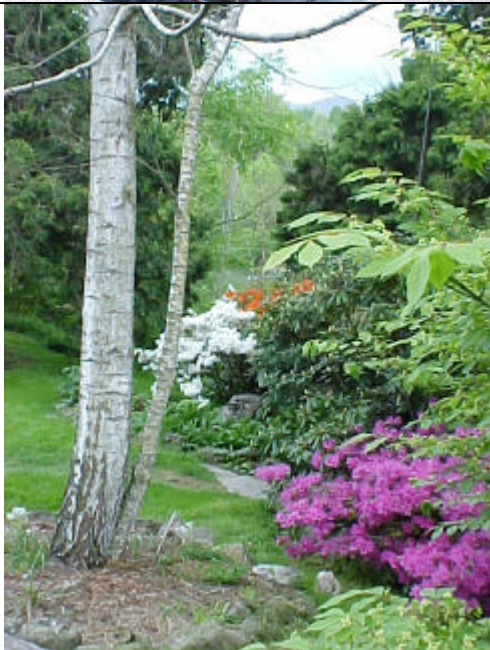
ABCS April 2003 Drive

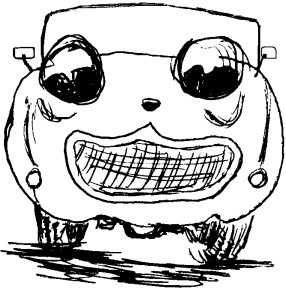
Rainy skies and black clouds didn't hinder our club's monthly drive to Farmhouse Gallery in Unicoi. Antique cars, hit and miss engines, a menagerie of animals wondering about and country music was the order of the day. Even though our British Cars were in the minority, we proudly displayed our colors!

Did anyone else see that white peacock?

By: Judy Penland







Behind the Smile

Al Bradley

Wayne, the Skunk and I

Did I ever tell you about Wayne Godsey? I'm not surprised. Wayne and I both worked at the same TV station-WLVA- in Lynchburg, VA while we were both attending college. In my last year of college, I brought back a car with me for the first time. The car was, of course, my sainted TR-4 of which I have probably written too much already. Ignoring that, however; one night after we "put the station to bed" following the 11:00 news, I offered to take Wayne for a ride on the Blue Ridge Parkway, just a short trip out of Lynchburg. Wayne agreed and, top down on a beautiful summer evening, we ventured out towards the parkway. There was a nice mountain road through a little place called Big Island which is, of course, neither big nor an island, but a nice drive nonetheless. It was very dark and there was no traffic other than my little TR-4 on the highway. The TR's engine purred along as that nice 2-liter Triumph tractor engine can do.

Suddenly, in front of us an animal darted out into the highway. I downshifted to slow but the animal, caught in the headlights, slowed with us. I yelled "Wayne is that a cat?" Wayne replied, "Yes". "Well, I'm afraid I can't miss it" [there was just no maneuvering room on this part of the mountain road]. It soon became painfully evident that the animal was not, indeed, a cat but a skunk! That awful, putrid aroma of a frightened, now dead, skunk hung very densely in the air around the car just as though the car had its own cloud that followed it. We did do our short trip on the Parkway and learned that the faster we drove the less we could smell skunk. Zooming at breakneck speed back to Lynchburg, the moment that we got out of the car, we both became physically ill from the smell.

I found myself the subject of inquiry from the Lynchburg Police Department as to the nature of my visit to a coin operated car wash at 3:30 AM. This big policeman walked over to question my motives further, but 50 feet away he stopped, said "Never mind" and left!

Days later, when I could detect even a faint trace of that odor from clothing, the car or anything I would become very ill just from that subtle reminder!

Skunks and sports cars just don't mix!

APPALACHIAN BRITISH CAR SOCIETY
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

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

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

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ DATE: _____

<u>CARS:</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COLOR</u>
#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 (includes following year's dues)
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 Kingsport, TN

ABCS / Eddie Penland
4547 Grace Dr.
Kingsport, TN 37664

TO: