Newsletter

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Board Members 2009-2010

Gail Lenhard, Chairperson, Term expires 2010 Glenn's MG Repair 3130 39th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33714 (727) 521-9890, gail@glennsmg.com

Mike Engard, Treasurer, Term expires 2010 Ragtops & Roadsters 203 South Fourth Street, Perkasie, PA 18944 (215) 257-1202, mikee@ragtops.com

Kelvin Dodd, Secretary, Term expires 2009 Moss Motors, LTD. 440 Rutherford St., Goleta, CA 93117 (805) 681-3400, doddk@mossmotors.com

John Twist, At-Large, Term expires 2011 University Motors LTD 6490 East Fulton Ada, MI 49301 (616) 682-0800, johntwist@universitymotorsltd.com

Jonathan Stein, At-Large, Term expires 2011 Hagerty Insurance 141 Rivers Edge Drive, Suite 200 Traverse City, MI 49684 istein@hagerty.com

Contact the BMTA

www.britcar.org (616) 355-2850, (616) 355-4266 fax British Motor Trade Association Alan Dalman c/o Eclectic Motorworks LLC 445 West 22nd Street, Holland, MI 49423

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- Nominations needed
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BMTA 8th Annual Trade Conference

By Pete Cosmides

It's never too early to start planning for your attendance to the 8th Annual BMTA Conference February 19-21, 2010. This is the first time the BMTA conference has visited the East Coast and plans are well under way here in the Philadelphia area for what should be another fun, productive and fact filled weekend. Jonathan Stein of Hagerty Insurance (www.hagerty.com) and I are next year's conference co-chairs.

Plans so far include a visit to the newly opened world class Simeone Museum (www.simeonefoundation.com) as well as shop visits to nearby BMTA members Ragtops & Roadsters (www.ragtops.com) and Motorcar Garage (www.motorcar-garage.com). There are quite a few other BMTA members within an easy drive of Philadelphia, so more visits may be in the plans.

Motorcar Garage has been a member of the BMTA almost since its inception, and as luck would have it, I was just getting my business underway. My membership and the contacts and friends I have made have been invaluable to our success (so far!).

The most important aspect of being a member, as with any organization, is involvement. The annual conferences are invaluable for meeting fellow shop owners, our parts suppliers and our media base. Being able to discuss the trials and tribulations of running your business with fellow shop owners, some of whom have been doing this for 35 years, is an incomparable way to see just what you may be doing wrong or, more importantly, how you may be able to do things better.

We have some special speakers and topics planned and the Friday evening portion of the conference will be open to the local British car clubs. This Open House has been done in the past, and has proven to be a positive way to give the BMTA some exposure.

As more details of the conference become available, we will make you aware via messages on the BMTA message board, emails and through the newsletter. If you are not signed up for the message board (http://www.britcar.org/forum/), you are missing another key element to your membership. There is some valuable information being shared on the



discussion board, and information sharing is one of the focuses of the BMTA. Please take a few minutes to visit and sign up to your message board!

I hope to meet many of you at the conference and please contact

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From the Chair

By Gail Lenhard

As you can read on the front page, Jonathan Stein and Pete Cosmides are putting together a *MUST ATTEND* annual conference in Philadelphia. The theme for the weekend, "Expanding the Market," is one that I'm excited about because we get to discuss how to get the younger generation involved in our Little British Cars. I know that both Pete and Jonathan would welcome any topic suggestions as well as speaker volunteers. Please consider helping out with this and let either one of them know if you'd be willing to help out.

Alan has sent out dues notices recently. I know no one wants to miss out on the great benefits that the BMTA offers – the Discussion Board, Annual Conferences, Voting privileges – just to name a few, and will send in your dues in ASAP. Also, Kelvin Dodd's term as secretary will be ending soon, so if you would like to be nominated for this post, please let Alan or one of the board members know.

It's great to see the BMTA Discussion Board being utilized. If you aren't using this fantastic benefit, you are losing out. Contact Alan Dalman if you are unable to access this.

Another benefit has to do with the Members Listing. Many times we'll get a call from one of our customers who are on the road and needing assistance with their British car. We look at the Member Listing and direct them to the closest BMTA member's shop for help. It's a great tool that anyone can access. Please contact Alan with any updates/changes to your company. Take a moment and check out your listing.

By now, some of you may be thinking that it's about time to store your cars for the long winter ahead. Here in Florida, our driving season never ends – which means everyone has to move down here! No seriously, I can remember how frustrating it was when Glenn would tell me that we had to



park the MGA for five or six months. Perhaps the winter season is the time to get the car in shape – a new paint job or interior? Who knows, the possibilities are endless....

New Members

D & J Car Care Center – Manchester, CT

Rat-Co – Yaphank, NY

Do you know someone who should join BMTA?

Board Member Election Time Again!

The BMTA's Board of Directors has one term expiring at the end of this year. Kelvin Dodd, a board member since 2007, is ready to have his term expire at the end of 2009 (officially he will hand over the reigns at the 2010 BMTA conference in Philadelphia, PA). The BMTA will be holding its 2nd fall election this year in order to fill the seat vacated by Kelvin.

All BMTA members in good standing (2009-2010 dues paid in full) are eligible to be nominated for this position. Members may nominate themselves or anyone else they chose (provided the person actually accepts the nomination). Nominations may be posted to the BMTA discussion board or sent via email, snailmail or phone. When posting to the BMTA message board, please use the subject line: BMTA Board Nomination – (Name of Nominee). Send direct nominations to Executive Director Alan Dalman at the following contact information:

Alan Dalman c/o Eclectic Motorworks LLC 445 West 22nd Street Holland, MI 49423 (616) 355-2850 eclecticalan@gmail.com

Election Timeline

Now thru October 31, 2009 –

Nominations Accepted

November 10, 2009 -

Biographical questionnaire due from Nominees

November 16, 2009 –

Biographical information mailed to all members in good standing and posted.

November 16-December 15 –

Allotted time for Nominees to campaign.

December 15 –

Ballots mailed with Winter 2010 Newsletter.

January 15 –

Ballots due to BMTA office (Eclectic Motorworks)

January 22 -

Ballots counted, results delivered to Board of Directors and announced on BMTA message board.

lominations



Member News University Motors – Ada, MI

From John Twist of University Motors: "University Motors will cease full-time business on Wednesday, July 1, 2009, after 34+ years of service to the MG community. When our governess promised in her 2006 State of the State Address that "In five years, you're going to be blown away by the strength and diversity of Michigan's transformed economy," little did we imagine that it would be our own business that would be demolished in the ensuing economic storm.

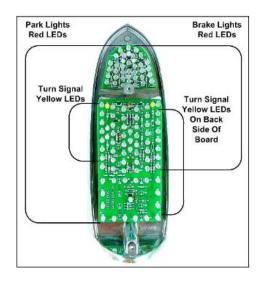
"We have ceased taking appointments and will use the month of June to complete the work in the shop. We will continue to receive bench work. In late October we will have an auction of parts, tools and MG memorabilia. Books, DVDs and technical publications will be forthcoming.

"All good things must come to an end. It's been a simply wonderful run!

"Over the next several months I will redefine my business. I do know that I will concentrate heavily on technical writing and videos, and I will contact each of the shops in the BMTA about hosting tune-up days – a source of fun, profit and more business."

Classic Auto LEDs

New BMTA member Steve Kolseth's Classic Auto LEDs in Albany, Oregon, is offering replacement tail lights for several

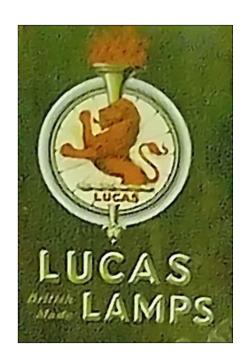


of our British vehicles including Triumph TR2, TR3 and TR6, MGB, MGA, Morgan, Jaguar XK series and others. Instead of replacing the standard tail lamp bulbs with LED bulbs, Classic Auto LEDs offers a complete kit with circuit boards full of LEDs to increase brightness and visibility from both the rear and side of the car. Rated for 10 years of continuous use, installing these in a tail light assembly may be the last time you will ever have to remove the lens cover. To see them in action, visit their website at http://www.classicautoleds.com.

Steve's goal is to provide tail lights, parking/turn lights and side running lights for British, other European and Japanese vintage cars. If you have an application you'd like to see them pursue, for more information on the kits already being manufactured or dealer information please contact Steve at (541) 619-8335 or email at steve@classicautoleds.com.

Joe Curto, Inc.

Joe Curto, Inc. has just received his order of SU floats for HS type carbs (MGB, Midget and others). They are made of Nitrophyl, which is that foam-looking black material the rest of the world uses to make carburetor floats. The advantage of these are that we are back to having a bendable metal tab on the float to set the float level. He also ha in stock floats of the same material for the TR6/Jag/MGB 175 CDSE type carb as well as the formally unavailable TR4 Zenith CD type. For more information on pricing or to order, call Joe at (718) 762-7878.



BMTA 8th Annual Trade Conference (continued from page 1)



Roadsters & Ragtops facility will welcome BMTA members at the Trade Conference.

Jonathan Stein (jstein@hagerty.com),
Pete Cosmides (motorcargarage@hotmail.
com) or any one of the board members
if you have any suggestions for seminar
topics. We welcome your input as we
continue to gear up for this conference
and any suggestions (or volunteers to lead
discussion sessions) are always welcome!



One of the hosts for BMTA Conference will be Pete Cosmides of Motorcar Garage.



Member Spotlight The Roadspeed Garage - Cleveland, GA

The BMTA Newsletter is pleased to continue the new feature called the "Member Spotlight." We will be featuring one or two BMTA members in each issue. From new members to the founding members, any business may be chosen for the "Member Spotlight." If you have any suggestions, please email them to Alan at ecomforconsideration in upcoming issues.



If your Little British Car is in Georgia and something goes awry, The Roadspeed Garage should be your first stop. Located in Cleveland, GA, about 70 miles northeast of Atlanta, The Roadspeed Garage can take care of all of your service and repair needs. With over 35 years of experience, Bart and Carolyn Miller know the ins and outs of our precious cars as well as anyone.

Bart Miller's first customer was his sister and her 1951 Jaguar XK 120. After growing up in Virginia Beach, VA, Bart worked in a garage in Norfolk catering to LBCs after high school. After college he spent some time wrenching for Herrington Motors in Montgomery, NY, before he and two of his college "car crazy" friends decided to start their own business – Elf Motor Works in Orange County, NY.

Unfortunately, Elf Motor Works didn't last, and Bart became a certified BMW tech for a BMW dealership. He retired from the dealership in 1997 as a master technician for BMW, Alfa Romeo and Volvo. After retiring to Georgia in 1997, a friend convinced Bart and Carolyn to open a new shop dedicated to servicing vintage sports cars. Twelve years later, The Roadspeed Garage is going strong and keeping the streets and racetracks of Georgia filled with Little British Cars.

The Roadspeed Garage is a true



Bart has a passion for posters of cars, motorcycles and races they have attended or participated in. They make a great display of his loves and interests.



LBC service shop, offering repairs and maintenance to both street cars and vintage race cars. With Road Atlanta just down the block, you're just as likely to find race-prepped Morgans, MGBs and Sprites sitting side by side with beautifully restored street-driven Jaguars and Triumphs. Bart offers performance engine and suspension upgrades for both types of vehicles as well as turnkey vintage racers and custom fabrications. Recently Roadspeed completed swapping a 1995 BMW M42 318Ti engine into a rubber-bumper MGB and made 101 HP at the rear wheel without any other performance modifications.

The Roadspeed Garage also does full restorations, although bodywork and paint is subcontracted. Carolyn specializes in the renewal and revival of interior components from seats and carpeting to wooden dashboards and tops/tonneaus. A true "Mom and Pop" shop, The Roadspeed Garage provides each customer with highly-personalized service and treats each car as if it were their own.



During the process of returning this Jaguar to its original condition, Bart is installing a newly-rebuilt engine into the customer's 1964 XKE.

For more information on The Roadspeed Garage, visit http://roadspeed.blogspot.com. The Roadspeed Garage (Bart & Carolyn Miller), 127 Warehouse Drive, Cleveland, Georgia 30528-4458, roadspeed@windstream.net, (706) 348-6364; Fax (706) 219-4327.



The BMTA Discussion Board Is Hopping!

The brand new BMTA discussion board is only a few months old and is already nearing the post count that our old board had after three years! If you haven't yet experienced this discussion group, please contact Alan (eclecticalan@gmail.com) for a login and password. We can easily add as many of your shop employees as you would like, provided they each have their own email address.

Recent topics of discussion include: Resolving problems from other restoration shops

Manifold coatings 2010 conference ideas MGA identification ... and more!



BMTA Newsletter Wins Golden Quill Award

The BMTA Newsletter recently received a 2008 Golden Quill Award from the editors of *Old Cars Weekly* magazine in the Regional/ Museums & Associations Category "in recognition of outstanding efforts in the communications field of the old car hobby."

We would like to thank all of the board members and regular members who have contributed their time and



efforts into writing pieces for the newsletter. Dick and Beth Lunney of *Classic MG Magazine* also deserve lots of credit for their work in the layout and design of the newsletter each and every quarter. We continue to strive for excellence and hope that each new newsletter is an improvement upon previous issues.

Thank *YOU* for helping us succeed. This award belongs to everyone in the BMTA.

Name the Newsletter Contest

Coming in the winter newsletter, we will be holding a contest to give a name to the BMTA newsletter. The format of the contest and how the winner will be chosen is still to be determined, so if you have any suggestions please contact a board member.

In the meantime, be thinking of what name you would like to see at the top of future newsletters!



Update Your Company and Contact Information



Please take a moment to ensure that your company and contact information is correct on our members page (http://www.britcar.org/members.php).

If there are any corrections, additions or deletions you wish to make, please send Alan an email so that he can make the changes as quickly as possible. As we

continue to tweak the website your profile will become updateable only by the administrators, so it's vital that you verify your information with Alan!

Put the BMTA Logo in Your Ad!



Every day more members are adding the BMTA logo to their advertisements. Putting the BMTA logo in your ad compliments the BMTA group ad and brands your business as a quality business.

If you have any questions about getting the BMTA logo in your advertisements, call or email Alan at Eclectic Motorworks or have your advertising rep download the logo from the BMTA website at: http://www.britcar.org/logos.html