

Member News

Eclectic Motorworks – Holland, MI

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Crate Parts and Eclectic Motorworks are offering dealer programs for all of their products. For more information, visit <http://www.crateparts.com> or e-mail Carl Heideman (carlheideman@gmail.com) or Alan Dalman (eclecticalan@gmail.com).

University Motors – Ada, MI

By John Twist and Brooks Twist

When, nearly one year ago, as the Michigan economy was collapsing and my wife Caroline's health failing, we had no option but to cease full-time business. During the following seven months, I cared for Caroline as the cancer sapped her strength, but never her will. Spending increasingly greater time with her at home, I simply could not attend to business. We sent notices to our customers thanking them for their years of support. We sent notices to our suppliers; we discharged our employees with severance; we had an auction to sell off shop equipment and MG memorabilia. Caroline died in January. As I pondered my future, I could not escape the undeniable fact: MG is my destiny. We are now re-awakening University Motors.

My son, Brooks, has taken his mother Caroline's place in the office, we have two of our original mechanics back at work, and we are working to re-invigorate University Motors. We offer bench, line and restoration services, as well as MG education via DVDs and technical seminars, on-site and off-site. Our new website will be online soon. We are not yet at speed but we are on the entrance ramp to full-time business.

Our old advertisements read: A lifelong dedication to the marque. That statement is as true today as it was when we first used it. Thanks to all who have supported us through this very dismal and heartrending time. We hope to be of service to you during your MG ownership.

Keeping Your Data Safe Part I: Backing Up Your Data

By Alan Dalman

Fire. Vandalism. Theft. Business owners cringe at the mere thought of experiencing any one of these. Companies and individuals can allocate upwards of 15-20% of our total business expenditures towards the prevention of and potential recovery from these acts. While these possibilities are real enough, most of us can count on one hand (or even no hands) the number of times one of the incidents has occurred. Think back, however, to how many times your office computer has crashed. Once a month? More? How much of a risk are you taking with one of your most valuable business assets – your records?

Very few businesses take the protection of their customer records, financial data and other intellectual property seriously. Every time you power off a computer in an office or shop, you risk it never powering up again. Every time you connect to the internet, you are putting your data at risk from hackers and computer viruses. These risks are as real as the physical risks to your and your customer's property, and protecting them properly could save you from a multitude of problems later on. Backing up your data is critical. Without backups you run the risk of losing days, weeks or even months of transactions, estimates, orders, etc. Much like the days of maintaining multiple sets of bookkeeping ledgers, maintaining accurate and up-to-date backups is a vital step towards maintaining your business.



External hard drive.

Consider setting up automatic backups of each piece of software you use on a daily basis – commercial software like QuickBooks, Mitchell On Demand and others provide easy, automated functions to ensure all your data is saved in a separate location. Even if the software you use does not provide specific backup routines, there is software available that can be set up to back up specific files or even back up every single item on your hard drive.

Storing your backups is as important as making the backups. What good would it do to make a backup of your QuickBooks data every day, only to store it on the same hard drive as your QuickBooks software? If that hard drive fails, you've lost both your main and backup copies. At a minimum you should backup your data to a separate hard drive in your computer.

Even better is to store your backups on a different computer or external, portable hard drive. Backup options include:

External USB/FireWire hard drives. These drives are easily portable and can be taken from your business to a separate location (home, safety deposit box, etc.) to protect your data. External hard drives can be purchased for around \$100, sometimes less. Much like your internal hard drives, these drives can and do occasionally fail, so frequently access your backed-up files to make sure they are intact.

Portable USB thumb or "jump" drives. Small enough to fit in your pocket



Newsletter

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Board Members 2009-2010

Gail Lenhard, Chairperson, Term expires 2010
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Mike Engard, Treasurer, Term expires 2010
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Kelvin Dodd, Secretary, Term expires 2012
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John Twist, At-Large, Term expires 2011
University Motors LTD
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Jonathan Stein, At-Large, Term expires 2011
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This Issue

- Carlisle Import and Kit Nationals
- Mantell Motorsport
- Member News – Eclectic Motorsports and University Motors
- Keeping Your Data Safe

Carlisle Import and Kit Nationals – Carlisle Productions, Inc. – Carlisle, Pa.



Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and the Carlisle Fairgrounds have been a staple in the car, truck and motorcycle collector event scene since the early 1970s. Started in 1973, Carlisle Events held their first show, "Post War '74" on September 26, 1974 in the rented Carlisle Fairgrounds. Approximately 600 vendors, 800 spaces and over 13,000 spectators attended this show, ushering in a new mecca for collector car enthusiasts.

By 1981 Bill and Chip Miller, founders of Carlisle Events, purchased the entire 82-acre fairgrounds property and over the years have transformed it to suit the needs of car show participants and vendors.

While Carlisle Events plays host to nearly a dozen events ranging from brand-specific (Ford, GM, Chrysler) events to those tailored towards a specific make (Corvettes), BMTA members are probably most familiar with Carlisle Events annual Import and Kit Nationals. The Import and Kit Nationals showcases Euro-classics and import sports cars and provides activities for car clubs and families alike. New for 2010, most events now include a child-friendly "Kids at Carlisle" area where parent-supervised children can learn about the hobby and enjoy events and activities designed just for them.



Cars and vendors filled the Carlisle grounds.



This year the Import and Kit Nationals will be held May 21-23 and BMTA members are encouraged to attend. The 2010 Import and Kit Nationals include a non-show field (with separate fields for Kit car and motorcycles) and a judged Standard of Excellence evaluation. This year the Import and Kit Nationals

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From the Chair

By Gail Lenhard

The Annual Conference was a huge success thanks to the endless hours of hard work from Jonathan Stein, Pete Cosmides, Mike Engard, and many, many others who went above board to putting this event together. Thank you one and all for all your efforts.

The topic, "Expanding Markets," focused on how we, as British car lovers, can draw in the younger generation. Erika Madawick from Autosports and Ed Sweeney from Motorcar Garage offered a lot of information on how to get the younger people involved. Many others had their own suggestions and they shared them among the group. The rest of the weekend was filled with other informative speakers who regaled us with bits of history on the British car industry as well as presenting ideas on how to reach out to the community.

Already plans are in the works for the 2011 Annual Conference, and we'll get this information out as soon as things are finalized. Plan on attending. You won't regret it.

The BMTA Forum is being used by more and more members.

This invaluable tool has helped many people in solving problems not only for repairing cars, but for every day business concerns. If you are unable to access this, please contact Alan Dalman.

Also, the BMTA Membership page on the website will be revised soon, so if you have any corrections to your listing, Alan is the person to contact. Please take a moment to review your listing to make sure it's correct. Remember, we want to promote BMTA businesses to our customers.

The BMTA is always looking for new businesses to join our association. If you know of a business that you believe would be an asset, invite them to join.



Member Spotlight: Mantell Motorsport – Sydney, Illinois

Mantell Motorsport is a specialty performance shop owned and operated by Pete Mantell near the heart of Fighting Illini territory in Sydney, Illinois. Mantell Motorsport focuses on MG performance with engine swaps ranging from Ford Duratec 4-cylinders and GM 60-degree V6s to Buick/Rover, Ford and GM LS V8s.

Mantell Motorsport also offers the Do-It-Yourself hobbyist a kit which allows owners of rubber-bumper MGBs (1974.5-1980) to install a Ford 5-liter 302 V8 in the comfort of their own home shop. This kit includes everything needed for the swap except the Ford engine and T5 transmission. For those who are already mid-swap, but find themselves needing a particular component, Mantell offers the individual components as well. A version of this kit for the earlier chrome-bumper MGBs is currently under development.

Mantell Motorsport can also assist MGB owners in upgrading the performance of their stock 4-banger by installing superchargers, upgrading to 5-speed transmissions, installing new wiring harnesses and they can even keep the driver cool by installing the latest Moss air-conditioning systems. In addition



to upgrades, regular service maintenance is offered on MGBs.

Pete is also a dealer for the new VTO Performance Classic 8 and Retro 4 wheels, offering them for MGA/MGB, Triumph TR2-8/ Spitfire/GT6 and Sprite/Midget as well as custom CNC-drilled for different applications.

For more information on Pete Mantell and Mantell Motorsport or to contact Pete about MGB engine conversions, powder-coating services, etc. please visit:

Mantell Motorsport
2147 Co Rd 1100N
Sidney, IL 61877
217-688-2463
www.mantellmotorsport.com



Left: Pete Mantell, right Dennis Gage.

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