

British Marque Article - March 2024

The View from Behind the Wheel By Ralph Spayd, Photos by Steve Dellinger

Spring ahead and fall back. Well, we did that last night and no one at today's club meeting forgot. In fact, we had a whopping 33 members and 2 guests attending. There is nothing like a cold blustery winter day to drive up attendance at a meeting. We did have a lot to cover, and all went smoothly. There were several clerical errors in my work, but I deflected ... check with Linda! What a welcome event with more daylight in the evening and just knowing that we are actually kicking winter aside. February was a good month with our usual hot chocolate night at Hinkle's in Columbia and another successful CCC at Burger King which netted us 2 new members. We also participated in a great shared event with the CPTC. They graciously invited us to participate in their tech session. We met at a CPTC member's garage which is just spectacular. Denny shared his expertise in body work and detailing. Denny is quite accomplished and in addition to his beautiful GT6 he is bringing an Opel GT back to life...very impressive. I'm always excited by these shared events as we meet new friends and share our collective expansive expertise in British cars. You know it's not 1968 and MG, Triumph and AH can all get together and just enjoy each other's company and respect the cars. Seriously, can world peace be far behind ... lol!

We're fine tuning our 2024 calendar and have replaced our covered bridge tour on May 26th with our Poker Run. We haven't run this gem in quite a few years so it will be a good one. We are also sharing the cost of a tent at Import Carlisle on May 11th with KBCC and the AH chapter. Again, we haven't made a group effort to attend Carlisle in several years so clear your dance card and join us this year. We have a joint picnic scheduled for June 13th with the CPTC and AH club at Rocky Ridge Park. This is a mid-week event and is something new for all 3 clubs. Bring your chair and lunch along with a dessert to share. We'll gather at 11 AM and it's a rain or shine event. Our WEB site upgrade is coming along nicely with the help of Dennis B. We've had several offers from club members to help Dennis with this mammoth task...thank you all! We have several "join me" events planned this year. We've targeted key events for LANCO to group up and attend as a club. Check out our club calendar for details. Speaking of the calendar, we'll be moving the June club meeting from the 9th to June 2nd so we can attend the show in Hellertown. Busy, busy, busy with something for everyone, but remember our cardinal rule: "Never ever miss an event because of your car." We love your pride and joy but we're wayyyy more interested in you and having you joining us.

Steve D. drum roll please, as it's time for the "soapbox". This past month was just exhilarating for me. I met a great contact who sold me two new rims and unobtainable center caps for my TVR. He also enjoys (as a hobby) importing cars from England. I met a young man last Friday night who is a welder and a car guy. Would love to connect with the club and help with welding if required. Got some great advice from Steve R. regarding a Lotus. He directed me to his friend who also shared his expertise and offered his trailer to me if I needed help. I never met him, but he offered to help. At our last CCC a fellow overheard our conversation on Gregg S's trouble getting a title for car, joined in and offered his advice. It's just amazing to me how much help is out there and how willing to share if we just connect. The tech session shared this past month by the CPTC is just another example of sharing and new connections made. We all have so much to offer, share and gain if we are open to new connections.

**"The most important things in life are the connections you make with others."
Tom Ford**

Our club both individually and collectively has so much to share with others. We have several "targeted" shared events planned this year. It will be busy, but exciting as we work together. Please join us at any or all of these events. You never know who you might connect with or help while

promoting our passion for British motoring. Stay safe and positive and remember to check out our web site at www.lancomgclub.com and follow us on Meetup and Facebook. Mark your calendars for the upcoming events.



Rainy Day at CC&C



Some of the CC&C Crew



Ladies' Table

February Hot Chocolate Nite By Ralph Spayd, Photos by Charlie Baldwin and Ralph Spayd

We held our second winter gathering aka "Hot Chocolate Nite" on Tuesday, Feb 21st at Hinkle's Restaurant in Columbia. As they are only open until 7 PM, we gathered at 5:30 PM so that the hungry crowd had time to eat AND get ice cream. Sadly, there was no hot chocolate ordered that night - quite ironic. As a side bar, Hinkle in PA Dutch means chicken!! So, seven birds of a feather attended the event, and we enjoyed dinner and dessert. The evening was quite informative, and I came away with the following knowledge and insights. Gregg has a new baby - his very own MINI Cooper, pretty sweet. He'll never have an excuse to miss anything now. Surprisingly, Linda found it hard to get a word in edge wise with this group - shocking. Margaret is not a patient customer and to top it off was served 'cold" ice cream! Seriously, it was good to see Bob on the mend as he had a nasty fall but recovered nicely in the BVI on a sailboat. Steve tried to disguise his voice and call the tech squad - why? Charlie is frantically trying to get his latest car show list to Dennis before our web upgrade. You may dodge a bullet this month, but the year is just beginning Charlie. Finally, as the writer and observer for the group, I was like the coin in Gregg's pocket. Just ask him. A bland February night in mid-winter was greatly enriched by good food, laughter and friends spending a nice evening together. We have lots of stories and life to share when we all get together. Stay connected at our next Wednesday outing on April 17th at the Fox Meadows Creamery in Ephrata at 6:30pm.



Hinkle's Crew – Part 1



Steve and Gregg!



Charlie WAS there!

Simeone Museum - Best of Britain - British V8 Power By Ralph Spayd, Photos by Ralph Spayd

On Thursday, February 22nd, Linda and I took a road trip to the Simeone Museum to see the British V8 power exhibit. Linda indulged me as I love two things, all British cars and V8 power. The exhibit did not disappoint! The following is the list of cars featured: 1953 Allard; 1963 Jensen CV8; 1964 AC Cobra; 1964 Daimler SP250; 1971 Jensen Interceptor MK II; 1967 TVR Tuscan; 1966 Sunbeam Tiger MK IA; 2016 McLaren 675 LT; 2015 Jaguar XK; 1998 TVR Griffith; 1997 Lotus Esprit V8; 1980 Aston Martin V8 Vantage; 1980 Triumph TR8; 1973 Triumph Stag; 1976 MGB GT V8 and a 1972 Morgan Plus8.....wow!!!

The cars were all “invited” to display and not part of the museum collection. For me, the most beautiful car is the 1964 AC Cobra. It’s just a stunning design of power, style and function. The stars certainly did align with that creation. They are all stunning designs and I’m partial to the 1998 TVR Griffith for its sweeping curves and the Morgan Plus 8 is just a beast! Some of the cars I can identify with as I’ve driven and had friends own them. The Sunbeam Tiger is true to its name. My friend had a 1970 TVR Griffith and it was truly a dangerous car. Drove a TR Stag and didn’t care for the driving position. Drove an Allard one time and it’s a raw driving experience. But for me the biggest conundrum is the MGB. I had a 1978 roadster with the Rover conversion by Don Towery. It was a beautifully done conversion and just a wonderful road/touring car. Looking at the BGT V8, in my opinion, that IS the ultimate MG. Why they did not export to the US is truly a mystery. I know the arguments e.g. gas crisis, changing taste, etc. but the car did get 25mpg and sports cars were still very much in fashion. It just doesn’t add up for me. I believe it had more to do with the British government ending funding to the car industry. All that aside, looking at the cars was wonderful. I’m always taken back by the design progression as you look at a Sunbeam Tiger next to the McLaren. They are two very powerful cars with a very different approach to design and styling yet achieving their respective power goals. It was a Great exhibit and a great tribute to British engineering.



1976 MGB GT V8



1972 Morgan Plus 8



1964 A. C. Cobra



1998 TVR Griffith