

BCF Bits and Bytes

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6400+ Members

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Special points of interest:

- "If you are a member of BCF and would like to contribute to our care and feeding, you can do so by purchasing a BCF car badge or patch from the BCF Store."
- "Do you have favorite topics that you would like to easily keep track of? See our BCF Tip of the month"
- "Member SilentUnicorn (Mark Youden) regales us with is recent parade adventure (and Elvis was there too!"

20 Years of SCCA An Interview

If you're into SCCA racing, you may have heard the name Hap Waldrop. He's been around the SCCA for a very long time. Knowing that Hap was a member here at BCF, I asked him if he'd mind doing an interview, and he was nice enough to accept.

Basil: How long have you been racing and has it always been with SCCA? Any vintage races?

Hap: I've been racing British cars in the SCCA since 1984. I have gone to my fair share of vintage races as crew and I raced stock car for awhile. As of yet I've never driven in vintage a race, but I have plans to do so in the future.

Basil: What was it that got you interested in racing?

Hap: My father and his best friend were involved in the early days of NASCAR. My



dad took me to NASCAR races at an early age and from the time I was big enough to walk and talk it had always been what I wanted to do.

Basil: What memories do you have of your first SCCA race?

Hap: I went to driver's school at Road Atlanta in the fall of 1983, so my rookie season was actually 1984. I won my first SCCA race at Rockingham Speedway in an F-production Triumph Spitfire in 1984. It's actually a very funny story about my first win. After the qualifying session, there was glitch in timing and scoring and all times for the group were lost. They ask us to turn in our times to them, kind of on the honor system if you will. I told my crew chief to turn in the fastest lap he had recorded for me. There were 14 cars in



Buddy, Can Ya Spare a Car?

You just never know what good things might happen when you hang around BCF. Earlier in June, member Paul Slice announced he was giving away (free to good home) a 1980 Spitfire, from which he had salvaged the gearbox and differential. Member Billspit was first to respond and now the nearly complete Spitfire has a new home. What a deal!



With Hap Waldrop

my class that day and I was gridded 14th in class for the race, so much for the honor system. I ended up taking the lead over about half way through the race, so I guess I got the last laugh.

Basil: What was the first car you raced? Do you still own your first car?

Hap: It was a F-production Triumph Spitfire and I sold it after my first year in racing to buy a Huffaker MGB race car.

Basil: How many different cars have raced?

Hap: Not that many really, about 10 or so cars total

Basil: I have to ask...have you had any serious accidents while racing? Any in particular that stands out?

Hap: Up until a few years ago I had never been involved anything I considered a crash. Maybe a few metal to metal incidents on the track, but nothing more than a tire rub.

(Continued on page 2)

20 Years Continued...

(Continued from page 1)

In 2002 a driver I was racing with lost control of his car while we were very close to each other and there was no way I could avoid him. I did a fair amount of damage to my car. His car received even more damage, but we were both ok, which was the most important thing. I consider driving in a race much safer than driving in daily traffic.

Basil: This is a dumb question, but how important is safety in the SCCA?

Hap: Pretty important! The SCCA has been the leader in safety as far as I'm concerned, much more so than say NASCAR pre-Earnhardt's death, for example. I consider the SCCA the safest arena in which a beginning driver can race.

Basil: Let me shift gears now...Did you have any heroes in the sport when you first started?

Hap: Sure. Mark Donahue, Ayrton Senna, Richard Petty, and David Pearson to name just a few of the famous ones. But I would have to say my biggest heroes in racing are the guys I raced with over the years; people like Joe Coggill, Bobby Stud-

dard, Steve Sargis, Craig Chima, Kent Prather, Tony Drum, Grayson Upchurch, Tom Feller, Ron Bartell, Bob Weber, Joe Huffaker, just to name a few. I've seen many good racers over the years but great ones are far and few between, these guys I mentioned are truly great ones in my opinion.

Basil: Is there any one race that really stands out in your memory, and if so, why?

Hap: Yes, the 2000 South East Racing Championships at Roebing Road. No one though I could win it but in my heart I knew I could. And I did.

Basil: As you know, we have a special forum for discussing racing at BCF which seems to be frequented mostly by folks who are already in the sport. For anyone with an interest, what does it take to get started in SCCA racing?

Hap: Well I would say money and commitment.

Basil: What advice would you give to any younger folks (or even an old guy like me) who might be thinking about getting into racing?

Hap: Buy a used race car, don't try to build your first car. Used race cars are many times less than 50 cents on the dol-

lar and in most cases will be much better than most folks' first building effort.

Basil: I understand you now own a racing related business...my question is, what did you do before you started your business?

Hap: I was a Goodyear Tire dealer.

Basil: Since you were nice enough to give us this interview, please give your company a plug, and of course what is your web address?

Hap: I started Acme Speed Shop in 2001 after getting out of the tire and general automotive repair business. We mostly do engine building. At first it was almost all race engine or race engine components, like head porting and custom race camshafts etc. However, now we are doing a good bit of street performance work, for example on British cars. We also sell some parts, like Superlite wheels, and we make a few custom parts as well. We do other race car related work like race car construction and restoration, and we even do custom paint work. You can view our website at

www.acmespeedshop.com

"His car received even more damage, but we were both ok, which was the most important thing."



BCF Car Badge



BCF Embroidered Patch

Bling Bling?

Dude, is that a BCF car badge hanging around your neck? Why, yes, I believe it is!

And is that the BCF patch tattooed on your arms?

Could this be bad, bad Leroy Brown? Nope, it's his cousin from Santa Monica, BCF member GregW, the designer of the BCF patch (see picture bottom-left).



GregW

Greg recently purchased a BCF car badge, and couldn't wait to put it on his car, so he hung it around his neck. The "BCF patch" tattoos are courtesy of a little Photoshop magic by member John Loftus.

If you are a member of BCF and would like to contribute to our care and feeding, you can do so by purchasing a BCF car badge or patch from the BCF Store.

What a Parade! By Mark Youden (SilentUnicorn)



“Old Duke stole the show”

“Looks about like a small town deal to me, I thought. Boy was I wrong!”

Notable Quotes

“Hi Basil, thanks for all your efforts. I enjoy reading the forums nearly every day here in Germany.”

— Eric

“Basil, I’m just one voice in the wilderness but I’m compelled to tell you how much I appreciate the BCF newsletter and all your extra effort that goes into producing something this nice.”

— Tal Burkett

“Absolutely love the Healey forum! More good info than I could ever use but I find it fascinating. I’ve had my 65 BJB for over 35 yrs. now. It was restored by Fourintune and completed in Feb ’92. Thanks again for your help and all you do for the forum.”

— Bill Lyman

Editor’s Note: Since starting the BCF newsletter, I’ve had lots of nice comments, and just wanted to say how much I appreciate it — Basil

Recently, my friend with the 74 midget (Elvis on the BCF) and I went down to North Adams, MA for the Foliage Parade. We were invited by a friend to meet with the Berkshire British Car Club.

I figured it would be like many of the small town parades we have in this part of the country; not really much of a deal, but I figured it would be a fun thing to do on a beautiful sunny day.

The 75 mile ride down was sweet. The sun warmed things up nicely by the time we hit the Massachusetts border. Temperatures made it into the high 70’s. “Me ‘n Duke” saw lots of smiles and waves as we ran down route 7 through Bennington, VT. Both cars ran well and we had no problems, arriving on schedule at the mall lot in North Adams.

As we drove through, people were beginning to line the side-

walks with umbrellas and chairs. “Looks about like a small town deal to me,” I thought. Boy was I wrong! We waited two hours for the pa-



Our little parade group

rade to begin and started to realize just how big this parade was. It started with a flyby of two A-10’s, then the parade started moving by us. The Clydesdales were there along with 20 marching bands, 18 floats and 150 other units.

We finally joined the parade in our slot and began to cruise down the strip. Holy Cow! There were thousands of people on the streets.

My car starting running hot and the clutch started to shudder at about the 2/3 point. Elvis’ clutch was almost smoking before we were done. The B eventually dropped out due to overheating, and one of the Spitfires vapor locked.

Old Duke stole the show, riding beside me the whole time. We had lots of comments and laughter and I loved every minute of it. The folks from the BBMC were fantastic. I gave them all BCF cards and they invited Elvis and I to join their club. We would like to thank them for their hospitality, and hopefully we will see them on the BCF.

BCF Tip O’ the Month—Fun with Favorites!

Do you have favorite topics that you would like to easily keep track of? Would like to receive an email notification when someone makes a reply to certain topics? Never fear, help is here! The BCF has a feature called “Favorite Topics” that allows you to tag one or more forum threads as a “favorite.” Here’s how:

While reading a thread that you want to tag as a favorite, scroll to the bottom of the page and click the link: [Favorite Topic! \(Toggle\)](#) (Figure 1). This will cause the

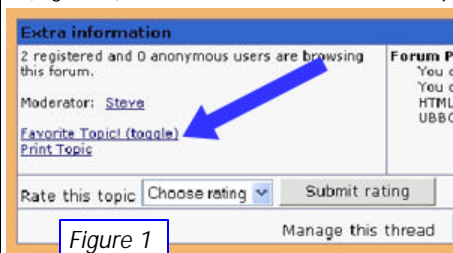


Figure 1

Thread (topic) to be added to your favorites list in your “My Home” page. You can add as many topics as you like.

When you visit your “My Home” page (accessible when logged in), you will see your Favorite Topics in the **Favorite Topics** section (Figure 2).

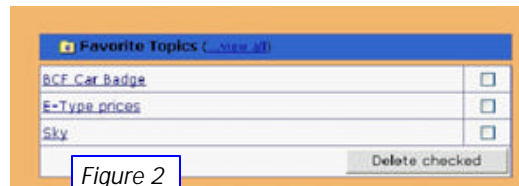


Figure 2

Notice that you can go directly to one of your favorite topics by clicking the link for the topic of interest in

the **Favorite Topics** section of your **my Home** page. Notice also that you can delete favorite topics by checking the corresponding

checkbox and clicking the **Delete Checked** button, if you are no longer interested a topic.

Did you know you can receive an email anytime someone replies to a favorite topic, with a direct link to the topic? It’s true, honest (have I ever lied to you?) All you have to do is click the [edit](#) link that is to the right of the Profile section called:

[Subscribe/Unsubscribe from receiving forum posts by email, change message notifications, etc.](#) Check **Yes** for

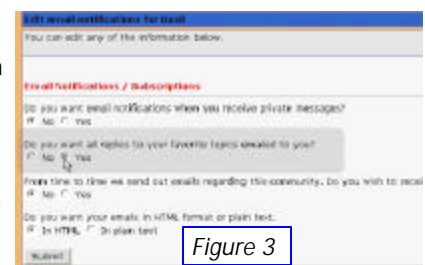


Figure 3

the question: “*Do you want all replies to your favorite topics emailed to you?*” and click the **Submit** button. Have fun!

July-Sep 2006 What's on in LBC-land

SOME KEY EVENTS FROM THE BCF CALENDAR*

- July 9 Cincinnati, OH
20th Annual British Car and Motorcycle Show . INFO: Bob Merten (513) 941-4911 email: jagaus@fuse.net
- Jul 19-23 Irving (Dallas) TX
Vintage Triumph Register 2006 National Convention
www.vtr2006.com
- Jul 30 Lakewood, NJ
Positive Earth Drivers Club
9th Annual British Car Show
www.pedc.org
- Aug 5 Schwenksville, PA
Pennypacker Mills British Car Day
Lee Niner - 610-831-1531
email: carshow@dvcmg.com
www.dvcmg.com
- Sep 14-17 Stowe, VT
The British Invasion
<http://www.britishinvasion.com>
- Sep 16 & 17 Arvada, CO
Colorado Conclave
<http://www.Coloradoconclave.com>
- Sep 29-Oct 1 Falmouth, MA
British Legends Weekend
www.capecodbritishcarclub.org
- Sep 30 Vidalia, LA
Brits by the River
<http://www.msemc.org>

* These are not the only British car events, just some of the key events I picked off the calendar. Be sure to check the Event calendar on the BCF often as events are always being added. BE SURE TO ADD YOUR EVENT TO THE BCF CALENDAR!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
9 Cincinnati, OH	10	11...	19... Dallas, TX	20... Dallas, TX	21 Dallas, TX	22 Dallas, TX
23 Dallas, TX	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Lakewood, NJ	31	1 Aug	2	3	4	5 Schwenksville, Pennsylvania
6	7	8...	30	31	1... Sep	9
10	11	12	13	14 Stowe, VT	15 Stowe, VT	16 Stowe, VT Arvada, CO
17 Stowe, VT Arvada, CO	18...	26	27	28	29 Falmouth, MA	30 Falmouth, MA Vidalia, LA

Tech Tip O' the Month—Holy sinking float, Batman!

Recently member **bigly** posted a note in the Austin Healey forum about the plastic float in the fuel level sending unit of his BT7. He pointed out how his float...didn't (float that is). Being the resourceful fellow that he is, he went to his local Ford dealer and bought their part number COAZ-9202-B. It is exact in every way except it is lightweight brass:



If you see a post in the forum that you feel might make a good "Tip of the Month," please send me a PM with a link to the post in question. I'd like to post occasional tips like this that might save someone some frustration or \$\$

Do you have an event coming up?
If you are involved with a British car event in your area, be sure to visit the British Car Forum and add your event to our Events Forum as well as the events calendar.

How:
You must be a BCF member (its free), then while logged on, click the link titled Calendar in the upper navigation menu, then click the Add New Event Link. For a subject, enter the location of the event (for example "Denver, CO" then in the body, enter the name and details of the event. You can include email address and web links to direct people for more info.
Also:

If you enter an event in our Events Forums (again, use the location as the title of the event), then check the "List as Event in Calendar" box and select the date of the event. Be sure to make your event "Public" in the calendar so that everyone can see it. (If you make it Private, then only you can see the event listing).

Did you know that, while the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Second Continental Congress on July 4th 1776, it was not actually signed until August 2nd. (That happens to be Basil's birthday)

CASWELL
electroplating in miniature

*"If you can bear to hear
the truth you've spoken
twisted by knaves to
make a trap for fools,"*



Support the vendors that
support British Car Forum



IF Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream-and not make dreams your master;
If you can think-and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings-nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And-which is more-you'll be a Man, my son!

New Server Hardware!

The past several weeks the forum had been running very slow. At first I thought it was just because of the increased number of visitors. But after discussing it with my web host, I learned that the server I was on was being shared several other web sites, but one in particular was using a ton of resources. This was affecting all the sites on that same physical server. So they have moved BCF to a different server and now things seem much faster (for now).



Advertise @ BCF!

Vendors, if you are a supplier of British car-related parts or services, and would like to support BCF and help us become the very best British car discussion forum on the planet, then consider advertising with a banner linked to your site. Details available via the "Advertise" link on BCF. (limited spots available)



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