THE OPEN BONNET

A monthly publication of the Foothills British Car Club of South Carolina



Nov. 2026

MONTHLY MEETING
Tuesday, Nov. 10
Chimney Rock Hill Climb
The Story by Hap Waldrop

⇒ **Dinner 5:30pm (optional)**

⇒ **Club Meeting 6:30pm**

Kouzina Restaurant

1325 Miller Rd. 29607

IN THIS ISSUE

2) Paul's President's Message

3) Renew your Membership NOW!4)
4) Upcoming Events

7) Tom's Knob & Jack's Place

8) What's The Hard Luck Award?9)
11) The Revised Bylaws!

12) So Many Cool YouTube Links

President's Message

By Paul Zimmerman



Click for video

As I've written in past messages, we are blessed to be a club that is active, growing, attracting new members, and even attracting younger members. I love attending our events and seeing people I don't recognize because they've just joined and are already diving right into all the things that make the FBCC the great club it is.

Yet, along with this growth comes a responsibility to make sure the club is, and will continue to be, on solid footing. That means that sometimes we have to do the work of being a club.

Which brings me to bylaws. Perhaps not the sexiest subject out there, but our bylaws are the structure upon which this club functions. They are the foundation that allows us to relax and enjoy ourselves, knowing we have a clear framework for taking care of the business of the club. Without them, we'd be going nowhere fast.

Our current bylaws were written in 2021 by a great committee. As with anything like this, it's good to revisit them from time to time and consider whether updates are needed. This club has changed and grown a lot since 2021. We are more digital, we are larger, and we communicate much more through social media and our website. We also have many new members who may not know the history of the club or how it operates.

I put myself in that last group. I've only been a member since May 2023 and really only active since the fall of that year. That's just three years ago! Our Vice President, Chuck Gee, also joined in 2023. Many of our Board members are relatively new to the club and to how it functions. To me, that's precisely why this work is so important. We need to document how the club operates so that as newer members step up to take on leadership roles (and they already are), they also have a clear understanding of how things work.

The Bylaws Committee, under the excellent guidance of its Chair, Paul Novak, has spent nearly eight months updating our 2021 bylaws to more accurately reflect who we are today. Literally hundreds of hours have gone into updating, tweaking, and clarifying the document, ultimately giving us something that will serve not only today's members but future generations of the club as well. We owe the entire committee a huge debt of gratitude.

I encourage you to read the proposed new bylaws and supporting documents, which are available on our website:

https://fbccsc.org/2026-proposed-bylaws/

There is a 10-day period for members to review them. If you have comments or questions, please get in touch with Paul Novak. This review and any feedback should be completed well before the November 19 meeting, when the Board will vote on whether to formally adopt the new bylaws.
The meeting is open to all members and will be held at our regular meeting place, Kouzinas Restaurant, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

I encourage you to come. Come to learn more about how we operate. Come to be involved. Most of all, come to say thank you to Paul Novak and the members of the Bylaws Committee: Jud Chapin, Bill Thornton, Pete Jakubek, and Jeffrey Delk.

They have helped lay a solid foundation for us to carry on into the future. We owe them a very big thank you!

Welcome New Members

Rod & Stephanie Scogin
Pomaria, SC 29126
1978 MGB (Plaidy), 1978 MGB (Paisley),
2006 Aston Martin DB9

Gerald & Terri Medford
Simpsonville, SC 29681
1973 MGBGT

Barry & Kathy Bennett
Hendersonville, NC 28791
1972 MGB

David & Jen Hawkins
Inman, SC 29349
1952 MGTD

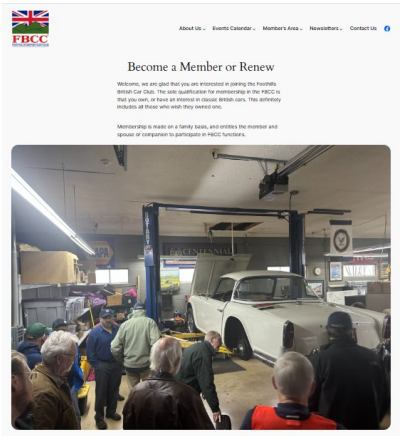
Brian & Kathy Riordan
Campobello, SC 29322
1966 Triumph Spitfire

Amos & Mary Jane Cordell
Hartwell, GA 30643
2002 Jaguar XK8, 2014 Mini Cooper

2027 FBCC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & DUES

FBCC now consists of over 210 members, and the following measures will help to process the annual membership renewal and dues payment in an accurate and efficient manner.

The renewal application is available on the club's web pages at FBCCSC.ORG. This renewal application MUST be completed by all renewing members, whether they hold Regular, Lifetime, or Quarter Century membership. Please complete the renewal application completely with current information. If you do not own a British car, list your classic that you usually drive for enjoyment.



Annual dues for the Foothills British Car Club will remain at $30. And must be paid at time of renewal via the PayPal button at the end of the application. Lifetime and Quarter Century members are exempt from paying dues but must submit a membership renewal form. PayPal is the club's preferred method of payment. You do not need a PayPal account to pay as you may use your credit card to pay via PayPal. There is no fee for you for this service.

Annual dues will be accepted from today through January 1, 2027, which is the final day they are due. Any member not renewed by January 2, 2027, is considered past due and not renewed. Those members will receive a notice to renew their membership and submit their dues. After a reasonable period of time a non-renewed member will be removed from the club's membership rolls. This means they will be taken off the FBCC Google Group list to receive or post information to club members, will not receive the Open Bonnet, and will not have access to the members portion of the club's website.

Please take time during the next nine weeks to renew your membership for 2027 so as not to miss out on the joys of belonging to the FBCC.

An October Surprise! Barney Gaylord drops in on the FBCC Oct. 13

From Hap Waldrop

"I am sure more than few of you are familiar with Barney Gaylord, also known as the MGA Guru. He has been traveling around the country in his MGA now for over a decade. Visiting folks, helping folks



with their LBC cars, and just hanging out sometimes. He has been documenting his travel since he began this journey back in 2014. He called me today to tell me he will be attending our monthly meeting tonight.

For you that don't know about the MGA Guru, here's his site, which is full of technical tips and also his trip log showing where he has been in his journey." https://mgaguru.com/

Read more in the meeting minutes. His report after visiting Kouzina is here: https://mgaguru.com/tales/





Image Links Provide Details

November 6, 2026
First Friday at either Silos or Southern Weaving Food Hall



Voting Board Members	2026 Officers	2027 Officers
President	Paul Zimmerman	Chuck Gee
Vice President	Chuck Gee	Ryan Owens
Secretary	Nigel Brooks	Nigel Brooks
Treasurer	Pete Jakubek	Pete Jakubek
Board Member	Ryan Owens	
Board Member	Marc Morgan	Marc Morgan
Board Member	Tonya Looper	Chris Gilman
Board Member	Paul Novak	Bill Thornton
Advisor-Past President	Drew Steidinger	Paul Zimmerman
Appointed Positions		
Advisor	Eddie Saunders	Eddie Saunders
Advisor	John Sharpe	John Sharpe
Garage Foreman	Tom Buto	Tom Buto
Website Manager	Al Converse	Al Converse
Newsletter Editor	Scott McCombe	Scott McCombe
Regalia Coordinator	Tonya Looper	Tonya Looper
Historian	David Benson	David Benson

November 7 - Fall Croquet Tournament is Cancelled



November 11, 2026
Veterans Day Drive



November 10, 2026 - Monthly Meeting & Officer Elections



1325 Miller Road, Greenville, SC 29607

November 21, 2026
Jack's Place



November 19, 2026

Proposed Amended By-Laws Meeting 11 AM



Open to all members

Kouzina Restaurant.

1325 Miller Road, Greenville, SC 29607

Link to Proposed ByLaws - https://fbccsc.org/2026-proposed-bylaws/

Please submit any comments etc on the bylaws to Paul Novak well in advance of the meeting.



Drew Steidinger found that the story of Jud and Peter's extended UK trip deserved a bit of AI interpretation. The fun continued!

ON THE COVER

Tom Buto led the first group of spirited drivers on the October 28 Leaf Peepers Drive and left everyone behind in their dust. Charlie Angle provided this beautiful shot of the second group which was led by Jud Chapin. The third group was led by Paul Zimmerman.

December 12, 2026

Annual Holiday Party

Registration is not mandatory and last minute is welcome, but please do register so we have an idea of numbers.





Now THIS is scary! The driver in this Triumph is your FBCC President next year!

Peepers Drives Scenery Ranked Highest Ever



Linda Reisch took this picture of Jocassee Lake and the FBCC Leaf Peepers on October 19. She nicknamed the drive the Switchback 500 for reasons dealing with spirited drivers.



Iain and I really enjoyed our first real drive with the FBCC. We adopted a more leisurely pace on the way home and got a few snaps of fall colour which I am sharing below.

You have a truly cohesive, well-organized and fun-loving club. We are looking forward to joining many future events!

Shift up!

Wendy Buxton



FBCC searches out good food! This is the October 7 drive to California Mexican Restaurant



Bruce Swift captured this bear shadow outside Cashiers NC

Jack's Place Is Where We Socialize & Learn

From Tom Buto

We had a great session at Jack's Place on October 17 that was very well attended. Craig Stechman brought his new to him Triumph Spitfire in for his first visit to Jack's Place. In fact, I think it might've been his first car club event as he's a pretty new FBCC member.



Jerry VanVlack brought his TR4 in to check his differential. Jerry's car has the Goodpart CV joint conversion and uses a more modern limited slip differential. Jerry confirmed his suspicion that the limited slip quit working. Putting the slip back in will be his next project. He has already located a replacement differential.





Don Woodward asked me if he could have some time on the lift to show fellow MGB owners how "Tom's Knob" works. I thought he was kidding but check out this link from Chat GTP.

An old friend, Gerald Medford, dropped by with his beautiful MGBGT and we put it up on the lift. Looking at the underside it's hard to believe that Gerald finished this restoration more than 20 years ago. Clean as a whistle! Welcome back to FBCC Gerald.



Tom's Knob - Who Knew?

From Tom Buto's AI research

Yes! "Tom's Knob" is a real thing on the MGB, and it's one of those wonderful bits of British-car folklore. It's not a dashboard knob or a gearshift accessory. It's a small rubber drain fitting underneath the car.

What does it do?

Tom's Knob is attached to the drain from the fresh-air intake plenum at the base of the windshield.

- Drains water: Rainwater entering the fresh-air intake drains through a tube and out beneath the car.
- Helps keep debris and fumes out: The slit in the rubber fitting helps restrict dirt and road fumes from traveling back up the drain.
- Protects the heater box: If the drain becomes clogged, water can accumulate in the air box and eventually leak into the passenger compartment.



Where do you find it?

On a left-hand-drive MGB, look underneath the car on the passenger side, alongside the transmission tunnel near the front of the gearbox. You'll find a small drain tube ending in a rubber bulb-like fitting.

Why should an MGB owner care?

The fitting can become clogged with leaves, dust and other debris. When that happens, water may collect in the fresh-air intake, potentially causing leaks into the footwell or rust in the heater box.

A simple maintenance check is to inspect the fitting and gently clear away debris. Don't force a tool up the tube or damage the rubber.

Where did the name come from?

That's part of the mystery. One popular story says a factory worker named Tom was responsible for it, but I couldn't verify that origin. The nickname has been used among MGB enthusiasts for decades.

The Story of the Hard Luck Award

A Milestone of Mechanical Misfortune, Mayhem and Misery

By David Benson

Each December the Foothills British Car Club gathers for their annual meeting and holiday party. We recap the year and observe the transfer of leadership for the officers of the club. Awards are presented as part of this celebration, and one of these is a peculiar one called the Hard Luck award. Its name is pretty self-evident and reflects the challenges of owning a British car and also our ability to share our troubles with humor. A lot of creativity and a little bit of tall tale go into this award which is eagerly anticipated each year.

Recently our 1999 President Tim Strickland recalled the origination story of the award;

"The hard luck award was created in 1995 by Bill Manning and me, after we had near disasters with pushrods, though these stories are a little different. Bill had unknowingly placed a gasket incorrectly on the rocker arm pedestal of the freshly rebuilt engine on his newly restored 1958 MGA. He was on the maiden voyage of his MGA (affectionately named "Pond Scum") in Hillsville, VA with club members Butch White, Mike Barefield, Tom Buto and Ray Campbell (The Beasty Boy's) when the problem reared its ugly head! He had inadvertently covered the oil feed hole in the rocker arm assembly and had traveled a long distance before the dry rocker arm contributed to pushrod failure. Bill was in quite a predicament as replacement 1958 MGA pushrods were unobtainable in Hillsville, VA. After some searching, they found the one and only junkyard in Hillsville which happened to have an MGA engine with the much-needed pushrods. The junkyard was owned by a "wheeler dealer" who was only too glad to take advantage of the situation. Bill purchased one pushrod for $125 then bargained with the owner for a second rod for $20. After correctly aligning the gasket and installing the newly acquired pushrod, Bill made a safe journey home, along with the Beasty Boys.

Meanwhile, back in Anderson, I was completing the rebuild of a Chevrolet 235 engine for my 1955 Chevrolet second series pickup truck. Much time, money, sweat and blood had gone into the build including Offenhauser finned aluminum dual carburetor intake, valve cover and engine side plates, Fenton dual exhaust, and Howard's performance cam and pushrods. The head was flowed providing a 30% increase. Only a few things were left to do; adjust the valves, install the valve cover, and install the engine in the truck. I stood back to admire this beautiful work of art! As I walked around admiring my work, I daydreamed about how 'Ol Blue would be on the road again in a week! Yes, life is good! I walked around one more time, placed my hand on the front of the engine and smiled. Just as I lightly lifted my hand from the engine, the entire thing flipped upside down. Yes, including the engine stand, landing hard on the freshly installed valve train! I'm not sure what I said or how many tools may have been thrown. After my tantrum, I went inside, poured a stiff bourbon over some ice, had a short pity party for myself. I then tried to replay exactly where I went wrong. The engine stand was designed for a V8 engine, not a heavy stove bolt straight six. Luckily, I still had all my toes. Fortunately, the valve train was OK. However, the expensive set of pushrods looked like a leftover plate of spaghetti. While placing the warped pushrods in a box, my thoughts turned to the FBCC and all the 1st, 2nd, and third place trophies won by club members. We had many nice trophies for the winners; we needed one for the biggest losers as well! A few days later I heard about Bill Manning's pushrod trouble in Hillsville and the "Hard Luck Award" was born. Two of the Howards pushrods were placed into a walnut base with a brass plaque bearing the words "HARD LUCK AWARD" and this was presented to Bill at the 1995 annual FBCC Christmas party.



By tradition, the club's "HARD LUCK AWARD" recipient is required to select the next club member with the worst luck of the year and prepare an appropriate award to be presented at the next FBCC Christmas Party. Also, the recipient receives a nickname to match the award, i.e. "PUSHROD MANNING".

I hope no one has a dipstick problem…

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Many variations and renditions of hard luck stories have arisen over the years which recall the sometimes humorous, sometimes troubling experience of owning cranky old British cars that don't always want to cooperate with our best intentions. And sometimes these LBCs resist our worst intentions and survive despite us. It's a testament to the spirit of our members that we can laugh a little with each other in good natured jest. The award is not strictly about the problems of one member but also about the willingness of many fellow members to help solve those problems. Our 2022 club President Charlie Blakely shared his fuel pump issues that brought him the award;

"Here it is Saturday morning during a club Swap Your Ride event and my Citroen dies in the parking lot. I'm going to have to get a tow truck to take this car all the way back to Pelzer, then get another tow truck to get it to a shop on Monday." I expressed my dismay, and was told, "No, no—this isn't a big problem. We can take care of this." Mike Barefield went to his car, rummaged around in the trunk and pulled out an electric fuel pump. Pete Jakubek went to his car and pulled out a few feet of fuel line. Someone else had some wire. Before long the guys had connected up a temporary fuel pump, and the car was up and running. The second incident happened following the President's Overnighter at the Switzerland Inn in Little Switzerland, N.C. To make a long story not quite so long, the tow truck finally came, and we gave him directions to Jud's Brown Building. However, that's not where the driver dropped off the car. We learned later that he had dropped it off who-knows-where and had to go back and pick it up and take it to Jud's place. Jud and Peter worked on it over the next few days and found that it too needed a new fuel pump which they installed. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Yes, I richly deserved the Hard Luck Award in 2022, but it would have been a whole lot worse were it not for the skill, knowledge and helpfulness of some of the great people in our great club."

During 2016, president Jud Chapin was a frequent accomplice in many breakdown and repair stories. This is in no way just a reflection of his mechanical abilities, but also a testament to how active and integral he is to the functioning of this FBCC club. He composed a recitation of his MG forum postings regarding one ominous engine noise repair, and these are his condensed comments;

"I decided to take the TD out for a test drive this morning. It fired right up, oil pressure good at 55+lbs, but it was running really rough and wouldn't idle. I shut it down and went under the bonnet to jiggle all the ignition and carb parts (fingers crossed and head in the sand you know). It fired back up and it ran rough for about 20-30 seconds. Then came the ominous rattle from the engine. I immediately shut it down and was scared to crank it again for fear of doing further damage." After much detail about the ordeal of dismantling the XPAG engine he concludes with; "The culprit is revealed! It was that damned dry air cleaner stud. …after dismantling the carbs on the side of the road several times I drove it stumbling and bumping with the air cleaner covers off but (I didn't know) with the studs still (at least for a while) in the base plates. Hopefully the stud in the front carb just fell on the ground, but it seems the one in the rear carb took a trip through intake land."

2009 club President Tom Buto has a closer than desired awareness of the Hard Luck award, having been a frequent winner. He recalled some of these episodes;

"In 2001 I believe Mike Barefield got the award. At the end of the first day of his SCCA driver licensing school he lost a valve seat and bent a pushrod which blew a hole through a piston. Mike thought it was the end of his attempt to get licensed, but his instructor was kind enough to pass him since he successfully completed 2 of the 3 days with no driving incidents. There was another hard luck award that Mike won while racing at Barber motorsports Park. Another driver ended up pushing him off the track while trying to pass on the inside of 180° corner. Mike sustained some damage to his car and of course, failed to finish the race. That was through no fault of his own, but we thought that he deserved the hard luck award anyway.

I think my 2020 award was when Jud overheated his TD. I pulled off the road pretty close to him. As he was pulling off the radiator cap, I handed him a towel. He said don't worry, the radiator is not pressurized. Just then the radiator cap flew off and spewed coolant all over Jud, me, and my car. It probably should've been Jud getting the award, but I ended up having more work to do to get the rusty coolant spray off my beautiful TR6 red paint.

I do hate holding the record for receiving four hard luck awards!"

Tom's inclusion in many of these events is emblematic of his deep history with the club and how important he has been to the growth of our club. We're all anticipating who Bill Bowen will name this year as the unlucky winner, but I don't think it will be Tom this time! Come to our annual holiday party on December 12 to find out who receives the 2026 Hard Luck Award.

Previous FBCC Hard Luck Award Winners

(subject to verification)

1995 Bill Manning
2000 Tom Buto
2001 Mike Barefield
2002 Tim Strickland
2003 Steve Poteet
2009 John Sharpe
2010 Gene Holtzclaw
2011 Tom Buto
2012 Pat Harris
2014 Jud Chapin
2017 Rick Pitts
2018 Tom Buto
2019 Rick Pitts
2020 Tom Buto
2021 Eddie Saunders
2022 Charlie Blakely
2023 Paul Novak
2024 Roy Scharwachter
2025 Bill Bowen



Paul Novak's



Roy Scharwachter's



Bill Bowen's

2026 Hard Luck Award Recommendation Needed

The FBCC is asking for suggestions for the 2026 Hard Luck award. If you are aware of an individual who deserves this award, please contact last year's recipient, Bill Bowen at 864-354-5053.

What We're Working On

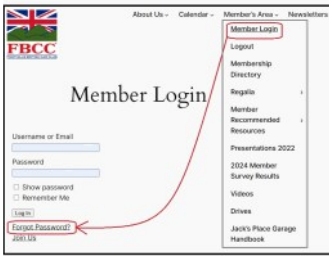
From Paul Zimmerman

A milestone moment in the restoration of my 1934 Morgan Super Sports Three-Wheeler. With the engine assembled it was time to put it and the clutch mechanism back on the chassis. And oh yes, align it with the propshaft. The tolerances on this are minuscule and with careful measuring, taking the engine on and off the chassis about 20 times to add shims to adjust the alignment to the propshaft we got it. A huge shoutout to Chris Gilman for his ever patient, detailed leadership on this part. A few more things to sort out and then it's time for body work. I can almost hear that J.A.P. engine thumping!



Updating Your Password For The FBCC Website Members Area

Our webmaster, Al Converse, has provided a very easy way to update your access to our FBCCSC.ORG website members-only area. Assuming you were originally setup for our website with your email address when you joined the FBCC, please follow these steps:



1) Select "Member Login" from the "Member's Area" drop down menu.

2) Select "Forgot Password". Your user ID is the email you use for our FBCC Google Group.

3) Enter your email address and select "Reset Password". It may take up to 24 hours to receive a new auto-generated password to your email in an effort to impede hackers.

FBCC ByLaws Update

From Paul Zimmerman & Chuck Gee

As detailed in prior issues of the Open Bonnet, on 10 January 2026 the FBCC Board of Directors (Board) established a special committee to review our 2021 FBCC by-laws and provide a proposed amendment for Board review and approval. Our club has grown considerably since 2021, and we now have a much larger digital footprint, prompting the need for this review and amendment. The FBCC By-Laws Amendment Committee, consisting of Paul Novak (Chairman), Jud Chapin, Jeff Delk, Pete Jakubek, and Bill Thornton, conducted their review over the past 10 months with inputs from FBCC members and submitted their proposed by-laws amendment to the Board at a meeting on 13 October 2026.



The Board has completed its review of the proposed amended FBCC by-laws and voted unanimously to forward them to our membership in advance of our Board meeting planned for noon on 19 November 2026 at Kouzina, where, in accordance with Article XII of our 2021 by-laws, we will vote on amending our by-laws. The meeting is open to all members.

Links to both the 2026 Proposed Amended Bylaws and 2021 Bylaws are on our website via this link - https://fbccsc.org/2026-proposed-bylaws/

A HUGE thanks to the entire FBCC By-Laws Amendment Committee for all of their hard work and for seeing this through in a very organized, thoughtful, and gracious manner. We are fortunate that they all stepped up to work on this important document.

Please contact Paul Novak at p.m.novak7@gmail.com or (858) 342-0445 if you have any questions about the By-Laws Committee or the proposed amended FBCC by-laws. Please submit any comments etc. on the bylaws to Paul Novak at p.m.novak7@gmail.com by 12 November 2026 so that the by-laws committee can investigate any comments and provide recommendations at the 19 November Board meeting.

Paul F. Zimmerman

President Foothills British Car Club

Chuck Gee

Vice President Foothills British Car Club

Secret Word:
"Prat"

Slang for idiot

Links of the Month

(send the editor your favorites at notanmg@gmail.com)

From Ryan Owens: 1965 Jaguar XKE Series 1 4.2 Coupe 5-Speed Race Car. Lsten to it SING!



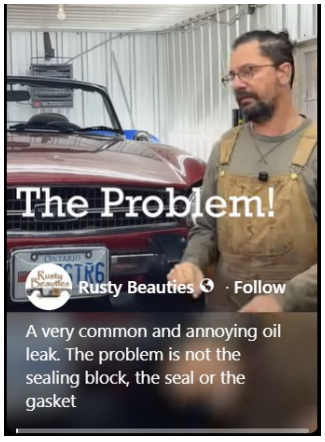
From Chuck Gee: good video of my GT6 at Willow Springs



From Ken Simms, member of the Richmond Triumph Register

A Fix for a typical oil leak from a design flaw
https://www.facebook.com/reel/1678689859878631

https://www.facebook.com/reel/1678689859878631



Links of the Month

(send the editor your favorites at notanmg@gmail.com)

From Ryan Owens: 1953 Mille Miglia



How They Raced in 1953: Restored Color Footage of the 1953 Italian Mille Miglia

From David Benson: Custom 1964 Jaguar Mark II Restomod!



From Scott McCombe:

MINI MAYHEM | 2026 Settrington Cup Part 1 | Goodwood Revival



FBCC Monthly Meeting Minutes 10-13-2026

Thanks to Nigel Brooks

Attendees: 40 were counted present.

(Last names only): Baker, Bowen, Brooks, Buto, Chapin, Fallon (2), Fowler, Gee, Gilman, Jaggard (2), Klug (2), Looper (2), McCombe, Mitchell, Moran, Medford, Novak, Petter, Saunders (2), Scharwachter (2), Sharpe (2), Smith, Steidinger, Stetar (2), Swift, Theilmeier, Thornton, Waldrop, Zimmerman, Lampo, Barney Gaylord (& Elliott).

LBC: Red MGA w/trailer, Red MGB, TR250, Red Jaguar XJS, White MGA1600, Yellow TR6, Red Lotus Esprit, Silver TR8, Red MGB, Green MGA, F Type Jaguar. MG's win again.

Location: Kouzina's, Greenville, SC.

Opening Statements:

Paul Z. opened the meeting at 6:35 PM.

New member here for first time is Susan Jaggard. Visitor is Bob Lambo and Gerald Medford (was a member in 2005).

Scott mentioned that he needs support help for the google groups. Carl Baker volunteered to help Scott out.

Carl Bakers Fall rally is now cancelled and will be held on April 24th 2027. Tom Buto mentioned that there is a conflict with a major British car show that date, so Carl will come up with an alternate date.

Nominations for 2027 officers are as follows: Bill Thornton (Board of Directors), Chris Gilman (Board of Directors), Ryan Owens (VP).

Upcoming events are (as usual, see the FBCC website for full details):

- Jacks garage is this Saturday
- There is a car show in Mauldin this Saturday, 9am – 2pm. See emails for details.
- November 7th will be the croque tournament at Jud's place, rain or shine.
- Car show at Victoria Valley Vineyard, Saturday, September 24th.
- Croque tournament on October 10. Jud indicated that he still needs one more croque player to fill out the roster for the tournament.
- The Leaf Peeper ride will be Wednesday the 28th of October.
- The club car rally, starting in Travelers Rest and ending in Victoria Vineyard, October 24th.
- Going back to the Oxbow fish & chip dinner, on the last Thursday of October.

Program:

Barney Gaylord and his friend Elliott are in attendance tonight as special guests. Barney is known as the MGA Guru. He came in his red MGA with a trailer attached. They have been traveling all over the USA since May 5th, 2014 (12 ½ years), going to local car club meetings, with about 720,000 miles on the odometer. Barney has had a website since 1998 for MGA's (MGAguru.com). He has visited over 300 MGA clubs in the country and an additional 240 other car clubs and shops. He averages about 25 to 30,000 miles a year on his MGA. His MGA is a 1958 MGA 1500, mostly original with drum brakes. He indicated that he has gone through several engines and transmissions during his travels.

In addition, several club members who traveled to England for the recent tour of English motor car factories and race tracks presented a slide show on their adventures. There were several highlights, including the robbery of Melissa Stetars' pocketbook, the fabulous tour of the Morgan factory and the racing at the Goodwood Revival track. The reviews by those in attendance was so good, that Paul will be scheduling an even bigger and better tour for 2027. Keep posted for more information on the trip.

50/50: Nigel Brooks won $61 in addition to the videos.

Paul Z. closed the meeting at 7:20.

FBCC Open Garage Tech Sessions at Jack's Place!!!

Your Best Garage Time!

We really love getting together to talk shop and even address real mechanical LBC issues using our 2 and 4-post lifts at the club garage. We also can advise members about interior repairs, paint touch-ups, Lucas electrical issues, brake hydraulics, ignition issues, and more. Some of us just observe!



The FBCC monthly open garage event occurs behind the offices of Ironhorse Motorcycle Lawyers Inc. off Poinsett Highway regularly on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

617 Poinsett Highway (Rt. 276) 29609



Does Your LBC need Some Attention?

Generally, the FBCC garage is open at 9am on the third Saturday of each month. If you would like to put your car on the lift, need some help with some mechanical issue, or just want to hang out, come and join us. Helping diagnose issues and assisting with fixes is what we love to do.

The FBCC Shop Manager is responsible for notifying the general membership and identifying specific activities that may take place on that day. Our Safety Supervisors open the shop, close it down, and make certain that the proper safety procedures are followed.

Guests are always welcome to enjoy the fun, but the FBCC must limit the use of the garage to member cars only.

Monthly Safety Supervisors

Month	Supervisor
January 17, 2026	Tom Buto
February 21, 2026	Scott McCombe
March 21, 2026	Drew Steidinger
April 18, 2026	Chuck Gee
May 16, 2026	Eddie Saunders
June 20, 2026	Gerald Petter
July 18, 2026	Roy Scharwachter
August 15, 2026	Paul Novak
September 19, 2026	Mark Riesch
October 17, 2026	John Burton
November 21, 2026	Bill Bowen
December 19, 2026	TBD

For Sale: TR3A & TR4

I am submitting this ad on behalf of Roy Owens who submitted the following to our FBCC website.

The link with pictures is actually to my Google Drive as the pictures he sent me were too large for one email. There is also a link to a YouTube video showing the TR3 that is interesting. I do not know this guy nor have I talked with him except by email.

If you are interested, give him a call or email him.

Tom Buto



Message Body:
Name: ROY Owens
Phone: 9376235772
Email: royalowens@aol.com
Message: Hi,
My name is Roy Owens, I'm located near Youngsville, NC. I have 2 Triumphs that I'm looking to sell, and was wondering if you could pass my details on to your members or other interested parties. I'd like them to go to a British car enthusiast that will enjoy them and maintain them.
1. 1962 TR3B restored with hardtop and some safety upgrades. It's a fun car to drive and gets a lot of attention at shows.

Triumph TR3 Police Car Restoration

2. 1965 TR4A Retro mod. New custom RATCO frame, rebuilt 3.9 Rover motor (~200hp, 40 pounds lighter than the original motor, twice the HP) rebuilt Borg Warner transmission. All new or rebuilt running gear. Needs paint and assembly. I have ~95% of parts to finish, all the engineering and hard work has been done. This will be a fun car to drive and a real head turner.

Can work package deal.
If there is any interest, I can be contacted at (937) 623-5772 / Royalowens@aol.com for full details, I'll answer any questions and I have a lift so you can inspect the cars in detail. Have extra parts as well.
Thank you,
Roy Owens

Roy Owens TR3 and TR4 - Google Drive

For Sale: 1967 Series V Alpine Factory OD and Series IV Rolling Chassis - Reduced to $4,000

I am submitting this ad on behalf of a family friend, whose spouse, a longtime Alpine owner, and former member, recently passed away. The family has decided to part with it, in hopes someone in the British car community will finish the car. As a former Alpine and Tiger owner, I believe this car is a gem, as the current family is the second owner from new. Information is supplied to the best of our knowledge. The car (s) are located in the Greenville, SC area. We welcome any questions. Other photos available. Thanks for looking. Wayne Cameron wayne@dwcameron.com Or text to 864-270-5553.

Car 1:

1967 Series V Alpine Factory OD, VIN B395017132ODLRX, SAL 624761

The car was purchased from the original owner, who, due to age and health had decided not to finish the rebuild. Car is virtually rust free, minor surface rust. Complete drive train is in car, including overdrive unit

Car has run, but not currently. was told it appeared to be “180 out”. Has seats, top frame (not top), windshield and many misc . interior parts.

Car 2:

Series IV rolling chassis, wire wheels, Includes hood and trunk lid. Rusty, but useable parts

Parts Also Included:

Extra engine block (your choice from 1 of 6, Extra head (your choice from 1 of 2)

Extra crankshaft (your choice from several), Misc cams, pistons, Set of aluminum wheels (5x13)

Misc. transmission parts. We may update the ad as we are still combing through parts.















For Sale: This 1948 MG TC is a gem! $21,500

Here is the ad for my friend's 1948 MG TC that I mentioned to you Sat. at Jack's Place. I have driven the car as well. It is located at Affinity Imports, Salem, Oregon. Inquiries (503)508-0139 John Hatch johnhatch66@gmail.com

I am sending this information in for John Hatch and car owner Jerry Becker. I have done some work on this 1948 MG TC, and the owner has decided that it is time to sell.

The car is British Racing Green with a tan interior. It has a very nice interior and a matching top. The paint has a good shine. As you get closer you can see a few chips and cracks and some dark spots, but overall it is a beautiful car and shows well.

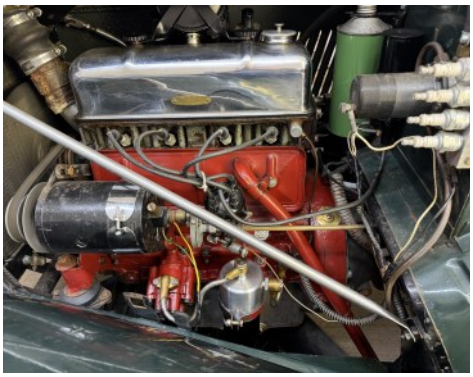
The engine has had a new coil, and points installed. It does have an issue that the oil drain plug (brass) is difficult and has been rounded off in the past. But on a good note, the oiling system has been upgraded to a spin on oil filter system. The car starts right up and runs excellently! The transmission shifts

well, and the car drives nicely. It has nice tires and the wheels seem to be true and solid. All the lights and signals work as well. The car has 67414 miles on it.

Asking $21,500 OBO.

Troy Walker, auto mechanic and owner of Affinity Imports LLC 503-302-5222





SALE: SCCA H-Production ‘59 Bugeye Sprite

Originally built and raced by Jay Lutz. Rebuilt in 2015 by Peter Morton & Eric Vickerman (ERV) with a revised roll cage and new front coil-over suspension based on Craig Chima's design. Extensive development over four years led to multiple SCCA National wins, including 5 top-10 finishes (2016–2022).

Specifications

Chassis & Body



- Right-hand drive, SCCA H-Production with log books
- Flared fiberglass bonnet and rear
- Spridgetech fiberglass race seat (Winners Circle mold)

Suspension & Steering

- Adjustable front suspension with Penske coil-over remote reservoir shocks
- Adjustable 3-link rear suspension with Panhard bar & quick weight jack screws
- Custom steering rack
- Double bearing rear hubs & competition rear axles

Drivetrain & Engine

- Fresh 1275 engine with David Visard cam & adjustable timing gear
- Electromotive crank fire ignition or distributor with Crane XR 700 optical trigger
- Dual SU HS4 (1.5”) carbs or dual SU HS2 (1.25”) SCCA-legal carbs
- BMC 4-speed / Richmond Industries transmission with Hewland MK9 gears
- Lightweight flywheel with Quarter Master 7.25” sintered metal disk
- Welded 4.22 diff installed (spare 3.9 diff included; other ratios available)

Brakes & Safety

- SCCA-legal front big brake conversion, rear disc brakes
- Fire suppression system (AFFF)
- 5-point belts (out of date)

Additional Features

- Aluminum radiator with electric fan
- Accusump oil accumulator & AN fittings for oil/water lines
- Custom LCB through-tunnel header & exhaust by Eric Vickerman
- Fuel Safe 8-gallon fuel cell
- Custom pedal box with dual brake master cylinders
- 2 sets of Compomotive CXR 13x6 wheels (wheels in image not included)
- Spares package included

Asking Price: $17,000

-$12000 without the Hewland transmission

-Racing Trans with Hewland MK9 gears will be sold separately only after car is sold

Location: Simpsonville, South Carolina. Contact Peter Morton for more information (248) 721-5978

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads and posting products or services is FREE for any paid member. Advertise most anything car related within reason. Contact an FBCC officer or the newsletter editor at notanmg@gmail.com.

For Sale - Lotus Europa, Midget, and XJ6 Parts

If anyone is looking for parts for a Jag XJ6C or Mk2 I am going to be parting out a couple of cars. I also have some Lotus Europa S2 parts and MG midget parts. Peter Morton peter@nobudgetracing.com

For Sale - 1994 Jaguar XJS $16,000



6cyl 53,000 miles. Nice shape...come look, it's in Greenville. I've owned/loved this beauty for 25 years, Rich Kummrow 262-893-3970 richardk1606@gmail.com

For Sale - MGA Parts

1. Scarborough Faire radiator duct shelf. Still in the plastic. $100

2. Scarborough Faire rear bumper with overriders, Original mounting springs, and hardware. $225

3. Pair of original MGA coupe seat frames. Great condition. $300

Contact David Mathias **dmath@mac.com**







For Sale & Free Stuff



1. A windshield glass for an early MGB. It is in decent shape with no cracks. Free to a good home.

Let me know. Marty Shane martys631@gmail.com

Wanted - TR3A Parts



After a low speed accident this morning, "No one was hurt", caused by the other driver turning left across my path I find myself in need of a front right "passenger side" fender, a bumper and wide a mouth grille.

Let me know if you have or know of any parts available, thanks. John Burton johnkbrit@yahoo.com

For Sale - Everything Must Go!

I have until the end of February 2027 to sell the land and everything on it where Classic Cars of SC is located on I-385 in Gray Court. I do have several MG's, a DKW, an Austin Princess and maybe some other European cars to sell or scrap. Help me save as much as possible from the CRUSHER. Ron Ayers at Classic Cars of SC. 1-864-313-2908, land line: 1-864-862-4423.http://www.classiccarsofsc.com or www.classiccarssouthcarolina.com

For Sale - 1980 MGB Make Offer

Contact

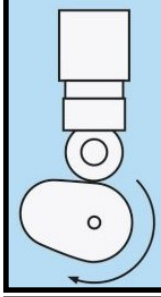
David Read

864-276-4623



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NAPA & O'Reilly's FBCC Club Discounts on Purchases

This "Garage Discount" will allow FBCC members to receive the same discount as a commercial garages. The amount of the discount is based on the item purchased. Tell the counter person you are with Foothills British Car Club. This is for cash or credit card purchases.

TR City Restorations



Alan Salvatore
864-252-5070
alansalvy@gmail.com

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Greer, SC 29651

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VTO Wheels FBCC Member discount. $50.00 off a set of 4 wheels. Orders must be placed through Hap Waldrop, phone 864-884-4450 or email hapwaldrop@acmespeedshop.com

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The Open Bonnet

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The FBCC Newsletter appreciates all submitted material for publication. However, neither its editors nor the FBCC accepts responsibility for content accuracy or problems resulting from following suggestions included herein.

Raffle Tickets

During our Monthly Meeting you could be the next lucky 50/50 raffle winner. Tickets are $1.00 but you can receive an additional FREE TICKETS when you:

1) Wear your Name Tag,
2) Drive a British Car, or
3) Know The Open Bonnet Secret Word

Advertisements for Product or Services in The Open Bonnet are free for current members. There is no charge for vendor advertisements when special discounts and offerings are applied to club member purchases. Contact an FBCC officer or the newsletter editor at https://fbccsc.org/contact/

A Safety Reminder! Shoes & Glasses at Jack's Place!

1) **Required: No flip flops or open-toed sandals will be worn inside the garage!**
2) **Required: Use the provided safety glasses anytime when under a car!**

How do I Contact the Membership?

- As a paying member, YOU have the ability to contact everyone.
- From your membership email address send to FBCCemail@googlegroups.com and all members will receive it.
- Please take time to note when you reply that each email system is different.
- "Reply All" will send your response back to the entire membership.
- "Reply" sends to ONLY the initiator.
- If you change your email address, please let Scott McCombe know at notanmg@gmail.com so you continue to receive all club emails and The Open Bonnet.

Join the Foothills British Car Club

It's easy. Fill out a membership form found at www.fbccsc.org and submit electronically, or by mail to the address on the form. Members receive this monthly newsletter and club emails through the FBCC Google Group, advertise car stuff for free, and have access to a well-furnished 2-bay service station garage affectionately called "Jack's Place". All this for an annual fee of $30, or $15 after July 1 for first time members.

If Not Receiving Your FBCC Google Emails?

New SPAM email policies seem to be biting some member systems so that emails are not going to their in boxes. Please add to your contacts list the address fbccemail@googlegroups.com (and if a Board member add fbccboard@googlegroups.com).

Contact Scott McCombe at otanmg@gmail.com if needing assistance.

Your 2026 FBCC Officers

Voting Board Members	2026 Officers
President	Paul Zimmerman
Vice President	Chuck Gee
Secretary	Nigel Brooks
Treasurer	Pete Jakubek
Board Member	Ryan Owens
Board Member	Marc Morgan
Board Member	Tonya Looper
Board Member	Paul Novak
Advisor-Past President	Drew Steidinger
Appointed Positions	
Advisor	Eddie Saunders
Advisor	John Sharpe
Garage Foreman	Tom Buto
Website Manager	Al Converse
Newsletter Editor	Scott McCombe
Regalia Coordinator	Tonya Looper
Historian	David Benson

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https://fbccsc.org/contact/

Already a Member, Use

https://fbccsc.org/membership-directory/

See the Just British Online Motoring Magazine Event Calendar here for a more complete listing of car events

https://justbritish.com/calendar/list/

See the Moss Motors Event Calendar here for a more complete listing of car events

https://mossmotoring.com/event-calendar/

Find FBCC Calendar Here:

https://fbccsc.org/calendar/