



The Spanner

October 2013
British Auto Club of Las Vegas
Founded 1990 by Ibsen & Julie Dow
www.baclv.org

BRITISH AUTO CLUB OF LAS VEGAS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Jonas Payne, 2013 President
Kate Payne*



In This Issue

Presidents Message ..
.....Cover

Events Schedule, Website/
Newsletter Info, &
Mission Statement2

**Lindahls Bucket List Trip to
California 3 & 4**

A Day in Pahrump.....5

Club minutes, Birthdays &
Anniversaries6

51's Night7

Paid Ads.....8

Member Ads & Stumper.....9

More Women in History. &
Halloween Run.....10

Happy Birthday Nevada.....11

Featured Car Back Cover

When I was a kid, I got the car bug, and this sickness has played a large role in the past 12 years of my life, following the purchase of my 1st antique car in 2001. Apparently, the disease is contagious, can be transferred to inanimate objects as well, as my house has been displaying many symptoms that we typically associate with our beloved British cars.

The first of these attributes is what appears to be seemingly endless series of maintenance issues. These have been joined by a series of leaks and electrical failures. Last fall, the wall oven stopped working, and to make a long story short, a very incompetent repair person proceeded to drop the unit on the floor, causing a secondary series of failures that have subsequently been repaired by a second (competent) repair man, under a warranty wisely purchased by the very wise Kate.

Shortly thereafter, the reverse osmosis water filtration system began acting up. While I was contemplating a replacement of this system, we were sidetracked by a leak in the downstairs bathroom, necessitating major repairs. We all know how that goes, "while it's apart, why don't we.....", so it ended up going from a major repair to a full blown room remodel, which I did most of the work. The part I can't claim credit for was trapping the family cat in the wall when the drywall guy closed it up, necessitating further demolition and rework to release the darn thing.

I kid you not, I wrapped up this project on a Sunday evening, and the very next morning, as I was enjoying my morning coffee, my oldest daughter asked me if water was supposed to be coming from the dining room ceiling. Apparently, this had been a slow leak that suddenly became a gusher, as the removal of funky drywall combined with the poor quality of a repair completed prior to our ownership necessitated the replacement of about 1/3 of the drywall in the downstairs, as well as re-texturing and painting the entire ceiling.

No sooner had the dust settled than the dishwasher stopped working. Some quick math led us to the conclusion that it would be more cost effective in the long run to replace it rather than repair it, so away it went. Approximately 3 weeks later, Kate informed me that the Air Conditioning Compressor outside the laundry room went kaput. Less than 4 days after this repair was complete, I was heading to the Home Depot to pick up a new Reverse Osmosis System (remember that little project?). I went to the garage to find my sun glasses, when I was met by a very upset Kate in the kitchen who informed me that the garage was full of water. The water heater in the garage finally rusted through after 16 years of faithful service. My dad measures the complexity of a repair project by the number of trips it takes to the Home Depot. Either this was a particularly difficult repair job or I'm a knucklehead, because this particular repair job was a 3-tripper.

We then went nearly 3 weeks without anything going wrong, I was walking around on eggshells waiting for the hammer to fall. I couldn't eat, sleep and I'm hearing things go "bump" in the middle of the night. In the past 10 months, we have suffered through 2 major repair/improvement projects and 5 appliance repair/replacements.

As if on cue, last week, the washing machine started acting up, I took it apart and put it back together, I didn't find anything wrong, but the problem appears to have disappeared. This morning the lock on Cole's bedroom door failed, trapping him inside. Some quick debate led us



**Happy Birthday
Nevada!
October 31st.**

Mission Statement

The British Auto Club of Las Vegas consists of British Car owners and enthusiasts dedicated to promoting the hobby of British automotive sport. The Club promotes information and networking and revels in the social elements of British car ownership. **You don't need to own an LBC (little British Car) to be a member, just love & admire them.**

Club members, prospective members and British car enthusiasts are encouraged to attend our meetings and events. Membership meetings are held at 10 AM on the last Sunday of each month at Memphis BBQ, 2250 E. Warm Springs Rd., Las Vegas. Any change in location will be noted on our website: www.baclv.org

During our meetings, we will discuss events and activities, swap Lucas stories, exchange advice on repair problems and enjoy socializing with one another.

BACLV

Board of Directors—2013

President - Jonas Payne

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October 2013 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Saturday, October 19th Halloween Gimmick Run

See Page 10 for flyer with complete details.

Thursday, October 24th, 6:30pm, Board Meeting—TBA

Saturday, October 26, Fall Rally (note date change) – details to be announced @ the membership meeting

Sunday, October 27th, 9;am, General Membership Meeting

Wildhorse Golf Club



*If you have an event you would like to Host,
please contact the Board and we will help you make it happen!*

November 2013 Schedule of Events

Thursday, Nov. 14th, 6:30pm, Board Meeting—TBA

Sunday, Nov. 24th, 9;am, General Membership meeting

Wildhorse Golf Club

11/2013 – events to be announced

Remember ~ No Meeting in December.



NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

The Spanner needs your articles for publication. Editor reserves the right to edit anything that is submitted. Copyrighted material not accepted without written approval. Submit all articles to the editor **by the 15th** of each month.



**Please
Remember to
Drive Safely
on**

NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE ADVERTISING RATES

The BACLV has a website online at www.baclv.org. This site typically attracts over a 1000 visitors weekly. Please submit a photo along with your text for each classified ad. All ads, classified and display, will be placed both on the website and in the newsletter. Display ads on the website can be linked to the advertiser's website. Our low rates are posted on the classified/advertisers pages of our website.

Al Lindahls Bucket List Trip to California

Written by Al Lindahl, Photos by Al Lindahl

On Thursday, August 15, Lorene and I began our car and wine (two of my favorite things) trip to California. Before we planned the trip we had purchased Smith Center tickets for Chris Isaak for the night before we left. It turned out to be a great show.

Thursday's dinner was an outstanding Italian meal at Il Cotile in Paso. From there we drove an hour north and stayed in King City, which is an hour south of Monterey. The cost of accommodations around Monterey during car week is off the charts, which is why we opted for King City. The accommodations



Aston Martin Grand Prix

in King City are not the best. I used Trip Advisor to select the best one, and all we can say I can't imagine what the bottom quartile of accommodations look like.

Friday morning we happily left King City for Monterey to attend The Legends of the Autobahn show with participation by Porsche, Mercedes, BMW and Audi. We brought our new A7 and although would have loved to bring our R8 we would have been limited by luggage capacity to underwear and could not have brought back any wine. Unacceptable

for both reasons, consequently the A7.

There were many nice cars on display, both as show cars and those driven by the attendees. Driving around Monterey was a head swiveling experience for me as the oncoming lanes were peppered with Lambos, Ferraris, Astons, etc, etc, Friday afternoon we drove south to Paso Robles and stayed at the fabulous Wild Coyote Winery and B&B. If you go to Paso this is the place to stay. The staff are great and the room is spectacular. We had a wonderful casita with a fireplace and a balcony overlooking the Wild Coyote vineyards, plus a great breakfast delivered to our room each morning. Light years above King City. (Did I mention that I don't like King City?). Friday's dinner was also outstanding at McPhees, which was filled with locals, and we understood why.

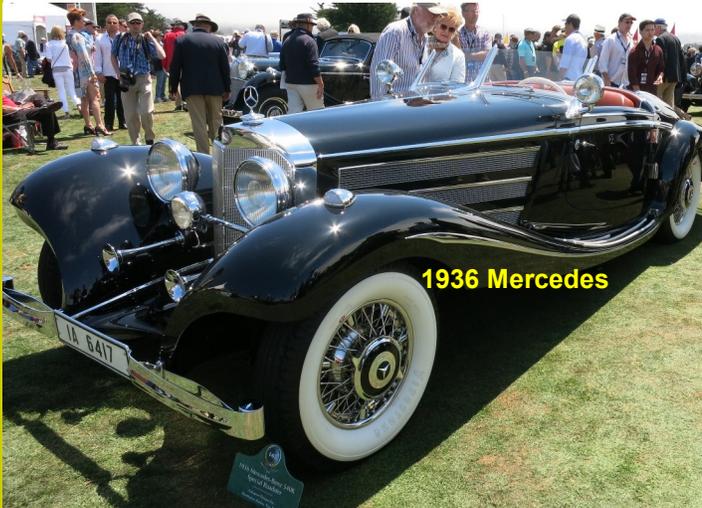


1936 Jaguar

Saturday we did barrel tasting at Wild Coyote and wine tasting at Ecluse and Chateau Margene. All three were great and we purchased some wine that was not available at the local Albertsons. As a cautionary tale, three years ago we were in Paso and loaded up on wine at the wineries only to find, our last day, that it was available cheaper at the Paso Robles Albertsons which maintains an extensive local wine collection. Nothing can rile an accountant more than overpaying for wine. Not willing to get burned twice, our first activity in Paso was a pricing trip to Albertsons.

Saturday dinner was the inaugural wine dinner at Wild Coyote's new dining room. We had a great meal and great company. After dinner we drank more wine out in the courtyard with three other couples staying at the B&B and swapped stories into the wee hours while one of the wives attempted to teach Lorene

Continued from page 3 ~



Sunday had us back on the 101 heading North to Monterey again for the Pebble Beach Concours d' Elegance where we got a parking spot 7 miles from the show and bused it back and forth. The show is on the 18th hole of the Pebble Beach golf course, and will be as close as I ever get to playing it. I was shocked at the ticket price which was \$225 presale and \$275 the day of the event. I did not want to ride in the cars or take pieces off of them. Just look. In addition, they gave you nothing for \$450. The Legends of the Autobahn was only \$30 for both of us, and you got free beer all day.

Never the less, the show is amazing. They have 100 year old cars that I never heard of like Simplex's that look like they just rolled off the showroom floor. In addition they have cars with amazing histories of famous races they participated in and famous people that owned them. I gather that each year the Concours has different categories. This years event included Antique, Simplex, American Classic Open and Closed. Packard, Lincoln Custom Coachwork, Lincoln-Zepher, Aston Martin, Vanvooren Coachwork, Duesenberg, Rolls Royce, Mercedes-Benz, European Classic, Pre and Post War Preservation, Ferrari, Lamborghini, Postwar Sports Racing, Postwar Touring, Porsche 911, BMW 507, Early Race Cars, Indianapolis Roadsters and French Motorcycles. More to my taste they also had the new Porsche 918 and prototype of the new Acura NSX due in 2015. Considering the price and the inaccessibility of the venue I had determined that this was a bucket list event for us. Seen it, done it, do not need to see it again (unless someone offers us a free house in Monterey to stay in and free tickets). After the show, it was back to Paso.

Sunday's dinner was also outstanding at Robert's. Paso has truly gotten some great places to eat in the last few years, and the dining there is light years over what it was on our last trip

Monday we were picked up by a company called the Wine Wranglers and we were driven to wine tastings thereby avoiding any DWI concerns. We toured with 3 other couples who were all a lot of fun and we had a wonderful day hitting 4 wineries. Having tasted wine all day, dinner was cheese, smoked salmon and crackers in our casita with (you can guess) more wine.

Tuesday it was back to Vegas for a few days of water and coffee.

This was the inaugural trip for the A7, and we logged 1500 miles on the new car. Surprisingly, we





A Day in Pahrump

by **Albert Seminatore** Photos by Sandy Lashua

Sunday Morning, September 22nd, dawned with a bright sun and clear skies. An excellent day for a Day in Pahrump. Before we headed out to the Grill Room we watched Sebastian Vettel win the pole position for the Singapore Grand Prix.

As we headed to the Grill Room the wind picked up and with the temperature only 73 degrees it was proving to be a rather chilly day. When we arrived the staff at the Grill Room had given us a choice—sit outside in the wind and the cold or come inside—both were ready. We chose the inside.

The area in front of the Grill Room was cleared of cars and the LBC's parked in front to thrill the local residents. First in line was a three wheel Morgan owned by none other than Jonas Payne. Behind him were two TR6s owned by David Ogle and Steve Kennedy. That was followed by one of those beautiful Lotus's owned by Pat Klenk. One vehicle was conspicuously absent—the Austin Healey. But then an Austin Healey that was involved in the LeMans 1958 race had an accident and hadn't yet made it out of the Body Shop.

Sitting in the Grill Room was Roger and Bonnie Himka, Steve and Alyson Kennedy, Pat and Margaret Klenk, Andrew and Sandy Lashua, David and Clara Ogle, Allen and Susie Rosoff followed by the hosts Albert and Pat Seminatore. We were seated in the dining room overlooking one of the many lakes on the Mountain Falls Golf Course. These lakes are so popular even the Canadian geese come to visit.

After some small talk our orders were taken and Pat gave each couple a very special attendance gift. Once the orders were delivered there came a hush over the dining room—a sign that folks were enjoying their meals. Eventually very pleasant smiles came across everyone's face as they savored their meal. Everyone commented how much they enjoyed their lunch.

Before departing the members showed off their cars to the staff at the Grill Room. They were very impressed, some having never seen these cars before. But that isn't hard to believe since most of the staff are a far cry from 60 years old. The day ended with Vettel, Alonso and Rosenberg winning the Singapore Grand Prix. A fantastic Sunday!



October Birthdays

- 10/18 Dottie Couturier
- 10/16 Tom Hill
- 10/21 Maya Hill
- 10/25 Mark Short
- 10/26 Jim Shope
- 10/30 Christine Shope



October Anniversaries

- 10/15 Headrick, Wayne & Barbara
- 10/17 Bowman, Alan & Rita
- 10/17 Westfall, Neal & Maggie
- 10/17 Benson, Gary & Heidi
- 10/12 Guzman, Art & Jackie
- 10/16 Gronquist, Keith & Barbara
- 10/31 Mauser, Bruce & Merle



Membership Meeting Minutes (8/25/13)

Submitted by Sandy Lashua for Clara Ogle



This was the first meeting in our new venue ~
The Wildhorse Golf Club.

President Jonas Payne opened the meeting and welcomed new members.

Bill Wellbaum gave the update on the membership, with 127 individual members. And reminded everyone of the upcoming 51's Game event. (See page 7)

There was no Financial report as the Lindahls were on a trip of a lifetime (see pages 3 & 4).

There was no raffle as the Shopes were also out of town.

Bryan and Amy Lawe and sons, **Ian** and **Collin** were introduced as the new printers for the Spanner. (See the ad for Aim High Marketing Solutions on page 8)

Andrew Lashua spoke about the recent St. George event. Everyone who attended had a great time.

We met in the cafe as the Banquet room was previously booked for another event on that day.

(Below L to R) The line for the Fresh Buffet, the Omelet Station, Members enjoying the breakfast.





Las Vegas 51's Baseball

Written by Bill Wellbaum ~ Photos by Sandy Lashua



Thirty three people bought tickets for one of the final regular season games of the year and 30 showed up. Great turnout with Jonas and Kate Payne bringing part of their neighborhood with them.

The weather was threatening rain with lightning strikes off in the distance but nary a drop fell. No breeze either which made it a warm evening indeed. However, the availability of beer, peanuts, and ball park hotdogs worked their magic to make the evening more enjoyable. The seats were good in the plaza section right behind home plate, which gave everyone a commanding view of the action. It looked like the 51's were going to take it home but they blinked and gave the visiting Tucson team the win.

Great fireworks after the game was over. They make the price of admission a steal. Great to see Nancy and Mark Short visiting from Overland Park.

A summertime ball game is one of the great values available to Las Vegas citizenry. You



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Happy Birthday Dottie Couturier

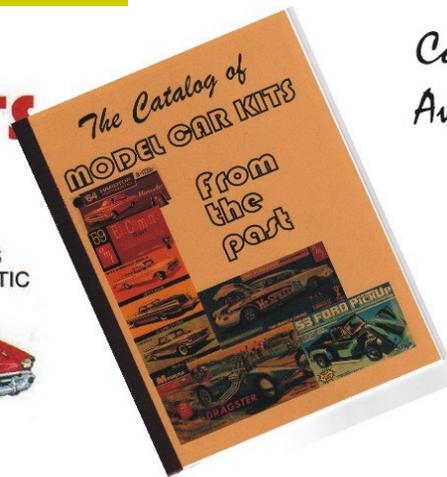
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FOR SALE: 1959 Austin Healey BN6 - Frame-up restoration finished in 2008 with approximately 2000 miles since. Is mechanically perfect. Have all receipts for parts and machine work. Has new top (only on for fitting). Side curtains excellent. Have many pictures, including underneath, that I can forward.

Price.....\$39,500.

Each month that I have a **SPANNER STUMPER**, find the correct answer and e-mail me at: cwlashua@aol.com. The first correct answer (the date and time received will appear on the e-mail) will receive 10 additional points!



August's STUMPER: In a previous issue, someone hurt his hand. Who was this person? In April's issue, David Ogle hurt his hand during a Tune & Tech Session. And the winner is: **Dick Rowe** will be awarded 10 points!



October Stumper:

On the website (www.BACLV.Org) it tells what you must do to become a member of the British Auto Club, What is it?



Halloween Gimmick Rally

Followed by a BACLV Cocktail Mixer at the Klenk Residence

Saturday, October 19th, 2013 Rally will begin at 3:00 PM, Mixer to begin at 5:00 PM

Cars will Queue at the empty lot at the North East Corner of Sandhill Rd. and Charleston Blvd.

Prizes awarded for Best Costume and whatever else the Rally Master comes up with



Women in Automotive History

Story by Editor Sandy Lashua

Florence Lawrence's turn signals

It was a silent film star, **Florence Lawrence** (1883-1938) who came up with turn signals and brake lights. (Where would drivers be now if we didn't have these indispensable signals?) It was the success of her films that gave Florence the funds to purchase her first car in 1913. Her "auto signaling arm" was a device that would raise or lower an arm with an attached sign that indicated which direction the driver intended to turn. The "brake signal" used the same idea with the word "Stop". All the driver had to do was push a button inside the vehicle to indicate his intentions. Unfortunately, Ms. Lawrence never patented these devices, so she was never credited with their inventions.

Helene Rother's automotive designs



In 1943 General Motors hired jewelry designer **Helene Rother (1908—1999)** to fashion elegant interiors for their line of luxury cars. She worked for GM for 4 years before moving to join Nash-Kelvinator (a division of present day Chrysler), working for them for another 8 years. Her designs put "irresistible glamour on wheels" for customers with discriminating taste. In 1951 she was awarded the Jackson Medal for Excellence by the Society of Automotive Engineers. She was the first woman to receive this award.



Flag of Nevada 1905

Happy Birthday Nevada

..... And a little taste of Nevada's history



Nevada became the 36th state on October 31, 1864, after telegraphing the Constitution of Nevada to the Congress days before the November 8 presidential election (the largest and costliest transmission ever by telegraph). Statehood was rushed to help ensure three electoral votes for Abraham Lincoln's reelection and add to the Republican congressional majorities.

Nevada's harsh but rich environment shaped its history and culture. Before 1858 small Mormon settlements along the Utah border sustained their communities through faith, but the secular western section stumbled along until the great silver strikes beginning in 1858 created boom towns and fabulous fortunes. After the beginning of the 20th century, profits declined while progressive reformers sought to curb rampaging capitalism and its attendant miseries. They imagined a civilized Nevada of universities, lofty idealism, and social reform. But an economic bust during the 1910s and disillusionment from failures at social reform and a population decline of nearly one-fourth meant that by 1920 Nevada had degenerated into a "beautiful desert of buried hopes."¹ The boom returned when big time gambling arrived in 1931, and with good transportation (especially to California metropolitan areas), the nation's easiest divorce laws, and a speculative get-rich-quick spirit, Nevada had a boom-and-bust economy that was mostly boom until the worldwide financial crisis of 2008 revealed extravagant speculation in housing and casinos on an epic scale.

Because of hostility from miners and their sympathizers, Nevada's territorial and state antigambling laws were mostly unenforced from 1859 until the Comstock Lode mining booms collapsed in the 1870s. After 1881, the state attempted to restrict gambling through licensing and other statutory controls. Opponents of gambling and prostitution became organized and in the Progressive Era at last persuaded state legislators to prohibit gambling statewide in 1910 as part of a nationwide anti-gaming crusade.

During the Great Depression in the United States, Nevada legalized gambling—terming it "gaming"—in 1931 (the Northern Club received the first license). At the time, the leading proponents of gambling expected that it would be a short term fix until the state's economic base widened to include less cyclical industries. However, re-outlawing gambling has never been seriously considered since, and the industry has become Nevada's primary source of revenue today. Gambling taxes account for 34% of state revenue. Also in 1931 the residence requirement for divorce was reduced to six weeks, making Reno a famous mecca for the quickie divorce and people from all over the country to "take the cure." In the 1930s, Reno's Bank Club was the state's largest employer. It was also the largest casino in the world until Harold's Club surpassed it in the 1950s

The Second World War was very good to Reno as local bases and those in Northern California helped boost the economy. In the late 1940s "Bugsy" Siegel helped get Las Vegas on the map by first building the most expensive casino in the world, the Flamingo, and then by being gunned down in his Beverly Hills home.

Las Vegas casinos of the 1950s were mostly low-rise building taking advantage of the wide-open spaces that Reno didn't offer in the downtown area of Virginia Street. However, Las Vegas boomed with new luxurious hotels in

Brothels have been tolerated in Nevada since the middle of the 19th century; one in Elko has been in business since 1902. In 1937, a law was enacted to require weekly health checks of all prostitutes. Reno and Las Vegas had red light districts, when the federal government prohibited all prostitution near military bases in 1942 (lifted in 1948). In 1951, both Reno and Las Vegas had closed their red light districts as public nuisances.



Today Nevada has almost 3 million people, most live in Clark County. This state is the 7th largest in land mass, most belonging to the BLM. Nevada has temperatures that range from -50 (in the North during the winter) to 127 degrees (in the south during the summer). The state Capitol is Carson City and it used to be illegal to drive a Camel down the streets of Carson City. Las Vegas is the largest city in Nevada and celebrated its 100th birthday in May 2005. Henderson, Nevada is in the top 20 Fastest Growing cities of the United States.

So on October 31st, say Happy 149th Birthday to Nevada.



*Ron and Dottie Couturier with their '83 Lotus Esprit.
Wish Dottie a Happy Birthday on October 8th.*



**British Auto Club of Las Vegas
P. O. Box 90973**