



The Broken Axle

Newsletter of the Bakersfield British Car Club

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Edited by Geoff Kimler

Letter from the President

Hi all; January newsletter here.

We are meeting at Lorene's Downtown Café again this year. It has been a good place and they are really appreciative of our business. The food of course is good also.

I am hoping as many of you as can, will come out for this January meeting. This coming Thursday at 7:00 pm. Get there earlier if you want to order dinner.

This will be a planning session for the yearly calendar and I need participation in planning events. I will have a tentative calendar and a list of events. Come with your own ideas I can add. Many folks in other parts of our great country put their cars away for the winter. We seem to put our cars away for the hot months of summer. Now is driving time! So let's plan some great drives to place yet un-visited! Bring your ideas.

Friday past was a Military service at Bakersfield National Cemetery for Wally Freeman. It was attended by a number of his friends and family as well as many of his friends in the British Car Club. I am sure Linda was appreciative that you attended.

It is time to send in your dues. Please fill out the form below and send with check made out to Connie Resseguie to her address. The form is important as it helps keep track of everyone and current phone numbers.

This issue I am including two articles I found the *The North Carolina MG Car Club Newsletter*, **Quadriga News**. The alignment article though written for MG can also be used for our other British cars. Try it and let me know how it

works, I picked up some time ago a spring loaded, two piece aluminum rod that fits between the tyres and the toe in can be measured by how much the rod moves in relation to each other as the car is rolled.

The other story traces s misfire 'bug' to a crack in the fuel pipe in the tank. Something to think about if you are experiencing similar problems.

Next meeting Thursday, January, 23.
Cheers, your Club President,
Geoff Kimler



May I also remind you your club dues will be due at beginning of the year? You can send in your form any time to Connie Resseguie.

Please make check out to her. Her address is on form below. Or bring to a meeting!

The North Carolina MG Car Club EASY MG FRONT END ALIGNMENT

Dennis Taylor

I have seen a number of questions about front end alignment recently on the list server; where to get one, what's needed or how to do it, and a corresponding number of responses about shops, costs and procedures. I'm not saying I'm an expert but the procedure I use has worked very well for me the last 20 years on everything from my 55 TF1500 through MGBs and Midgets. It requires no special tools or fixtures only a common plumb bob, tape measure, some masking or painter's tape, and a pencil.

Before I explain my method we should first look at what any alignment shop typically says they are going to check and correct. The typical alignment back when our cars were produced was a Front End Alignment not the Four Wheel Alignment used on modern cars. A front end alignment consisted of checking and adjusting three things, Caster, Camber, and toe. It was and is a fairly complicated procedure requiring special equipment not usually available to the DIY'er.

On big old American iron, shims could be inserted into the control arm structure to adjust camber, ball joints could be moved to correct caster and tie rods could be used set toe in. Our British cars have no provision for castor or camber adjustments, and would require major suspension work to change those settings or return them to factory specifications if needed. So, for our cars the majority of front end alignments consist of checking for proper toe in, assuming of course the front end bushings, 'A' frames (wishbones, spring pan, pivot and bushings), Dampers, and tie rod ends are in good condition.

So how do we check toe in? There are a number of ways to measure it, gauges are sold, and build your own gauge plans are available. I find those to be rather cumbersome so I use the plumb bob/tape measure method.

1. Position the car on a flat level surface, garage floor, drive way, etc. with room to roll it back or forward at least one wheel revolution.
2. Put masking or painters tape in front and behind each front tire.
3. Chose a tire groove and hang your plumb bob off the front of the tire and mark where it hits the tape.
4. Using the same groove at the rear of the tire drop the plumb bob and mark the tape.

5. Use the plumb bob to make the same measurements and marks for the other front tire.
6. Using your tape measure find the distance across the car between the front marks, and the rear marks.
7. Proper toe in is 1/8 inch, meaning the front measurements should be 1/8 inch less than the rear.
8. To adjust, loosen the tie rod locking nuts. Mark the tie rod with tape or a marker so you can tell how much you have turned it in or out.
9. To increase the distance across the front measurement turn the inner tie rod to lengthen the tie rod. Move each end the same amount, ie one turn out.
10. Roll the car back or forward at least one revolution of the tire then return to where your tape/measurement marks are.
11. Using the plumb bob and tape measure as described in steps 4 through 7 retake your measurements.
12. Continue adjustments steps 4 through 10 until you reach the 1/8" toe in required.
13. Tighten tie rod lock nuts.

Test drive and enjoy superb handling





Super Cruise is March 14th. Let's get our club involved and help out. The organizers are soliciting help from clubs and I think it would be good for us to help out. A good way to get some recognition for the BBCC!

Did you buy your new Jaguar yet?



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**Bakersfield British Car Club
Calendar for Year 2020**

February	<p>9th Brunch at Keene Café. 11:00am, drive the MGs, Jags and Sunbeams also!</p> <p>10th Drive your Triumph Day, Heck Monday but drive it all week.</p> <p>27th General meeting, Lorene's Downtown Café, 1531 12rd St. Bakersfield; 7pm</p>
March	<p>10th Natter 'n Noggin @ La Costa Mariscos, 5:30. 3401 Chester Ave. "The Ice House"</p> <p>14th Super Cruise car show at Fair Grounds. Early 7:30</p> <p>26th General meeting, Lorene's Downtown Café, 1531 12rd St. Bakersfield; 7pm</p>
April	<p>5th Queens English Car Show, Woodley Park, Van Nuys. www.queens-english.org</p> <p>18th Cuyama Valley High School car show 661-766-2769</p> <p>23th General meeting, 7pm, Lorene's Downtown Café, 1531 23rd Street, Bakersfield.</p> <p>25th Vintage Sidecar Rendezvous & British Car Club, Paso Robles, 9 am to 3 pm. Hotel in Morro Bay</p>

35 years as a club! This year, can you believe it?

Dave Wolin notified me that we need to make some updates to our facebook page, our listing with the Car Club Council and probably some other things. We will discuss all needed changes at the meeting.

The BBCC is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of modern, classic, vintage, and antique British automobiles. Started in 1985 in Kern County, California in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, the club has enjoyed over Thirty-four years of drives, rallies, picnics, tech sessions, and more. This monthly newsletter publishes the latest club news, features, announcements, and events. Do you have a story or announcement? Send it to the editor at; gtkimler47@gmail.com. Visit us online at: www.facebook.com/bakersfieldbritishcarclub.

Bakersfield British Car Club Membership Form

The BBCC is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of modern, classic, vintage, and antique British automobiles. Started in 1985 in Kern County, California in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, the club has enjoyed over thirty years of drives, rallies, picnics, tech sessions, and more. This monthly newsletter publishes the latest club news, features, announcements, and events.

Membership is \$25.00 for couple and \$15.00 for single membership. The membership runs from January 1st to December 31st. Persons joining after July 1st will pay 50% of indicated amount. Please complete this form and include check for total amount as indicated below.

Please check the appropriate boxes.

BBCC maintains a roster of members and will not sell, share or otherwise distribute this information to outside parties.

- I do not want address or e-mail address published in BBCC Members Roster.
- Please publish my contact information in the BBCC Members Roster.
Failure to check above box will result in information being added to BBCC Roster.
- This is a renewal application and I have circled new information.
- Please order name badge (s) at cost of \$8.50. \$10.50 for magnetic keeper.
Name to be on badge; _____
- Please order club shirts with logo. State quantity, style, color and size below. Men's or women's.
- Price of shirts to be paid by member. \$25.95

Mail this form to:

Bakersfield British Car Club
C/o Connie Resseguie
7902 Morningstar Ave.
Bakersfield, Calif. 93306

Make check payable to:

Connie Resseguie, Club Treasurer
Membership _____
Name Badge _____
Shirt _____
Total = _____

If you have questions please contact Geoff Kimler at; gtkimler47@gmail.com, or 661.293.0109

Date completed; _____

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State and Zip: ___ California _____

Home phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Helpful for on the road contact during drives.

E-mail address: _____ please print clearly so we can read it. We use

the E-mail to send our newsletters and information on upcoming drives and events.

Please list British cars owned: _____ Operating or Restoration Status: _____

