

# Northstate Ramblings

A Publication of the Redding British Car Club  
March, 2003

**March meeting: Good Times Pizza, Anderson, 7pm on the 10<sup>th</sup>! Larry Jackson will be showing a video on a D-Type and some other unusual cars (just for fun!).**



## SWEETHEARTS' RUN AND WINE EXCHANGE

*By Gary D. Hartley*

The first ever RBCC Sweethearts' Run and Wine Exchange happened on the rainy afternoon of February 15, 3002. Commencing from the Redding Convention Center in a steady shower were 16 intrepid adventurers, most in British cars (er... MGBs mostly, as usual!).

Paul and Barbara left the Discovery at home opting for their unique "British Motoren Werke" saloon, looking suspiciously German, and maybe even just plain suspicious. The Smiths had some manner of Axis beast as well, and the Snyders stayed home-grown with their SUV. MGBs were fielded by the Symons, the Hartleys, the Heidels, and the Wahlmans. The lone Sunbeam entry (big shocker!!) was the Laughys in their white screamer. Matt and Elyse managed to keep the 66 E-Type Jag on the road as well.



The run was mapped out by the Heidels, and Andie was still suffering the effects of some surgery but made the trip in fine style. There was a moment of drama for some of us at the front of the pack (all right, maybe just me!), precipitated by a deer or two wandering onto the roadway near the Igo bridge. I had trouble counting the deer as I was busy counting the feet between the ravine and my MGB. Not a straight stop, but enough roadway left to laugh about it all over lunch. The food was great at the Oldtown Eatery in Cottonwood, and everyone had their fill!



There was also some fun exchanging the wine, necessitating a little research to find the person whose birthday was closest after yours as that person was the recipient of your bottle. Ryan and Kathy got some hoots out of their customized label, warning would-be consumers of petroleum-based ingredients and the like. Made as much sense to me as many *other* labels I have read...

By all (i.e., no) reports, the trip home was uneventful for one and all, and those in attendance voted to repeat the run next year. Until then, keep the BritCar romance alive!

## KEVIN KAY RESTORATIONS SHOP TOUR

*By Gary D. Hartley*

Each year we are privileged to tour the shops of Kevin Kay Restorations here in Redding. An internationally renowned specialist in Aston Marton maintenance, repair and restoration, Kevin puts on a show each year for the club that has us talking well into next winter. The cars are fabulous, the work is amazing and the atmosphere is electric. Most of us feel that an hour or two is not nearly enough to take in all the sites, although I always leave with a sense of stimulus overload!



Aston Martin DB4 GT Zagato

As always, this year the immaculate shop was host to a couple of dozen drooling car fans, and there was truly some unique eye candy to sample. The Mercedes 300 Gullwing Coupe was outrageous, and paled only in comparison to the DB4 GT Zagato just a few feet away. Believe it or not, the DB 4 GT Dropheads were plentiful at four total in attendance (that is plenty when there were only 70 made!). Most also liked seeing the works in progress, including a rusty but complete Bentley and an early Mercedes cabriolet. Kevin's own AC

Acea was looking dapper with its "sympathetic" restoration nearing its conclusion.

Thanks, Kevin, for your ongoing support of the club and your generosity with your time in getting the shop ready for our onslaught. Nothing I have seen can compare!

## NEW SMOG LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

*By Byron Brill*

Once again, and despite past successful hobbyist efforts, Sacramento is once again after your collector car. A new California State Senate bill has just been introduced which will require biennial smog tests for cars up to 44 years old beginning January 1, 2005. That means that your 1961 or newer Fiat, Morris, Simca, DKW or Saab, (no, there is no exemption for two stroke automobiles!) will need to pass a smog test if this law is enacted.

Some say this would also require the retrofit of EGR systems to these cars that were never designed to have one in the first place and to which it may be impossible to fit such a system. This bill comes to you courtesy of State Senator Dean Florez, Democrat from Shafter (Fresno/Bakersfield area). If you care to read the bill for yourself, go to [www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb\\_07010750/sb\\_708\\_bill\\_20030221\\_introduced.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb_07010750/sb_708_bill_20030221_introduced.html)

The automobile hobbyist community needs to come down very hard and fast on this one to send a message to the California state government that we are sick and tired of their repeated efforts to scapegoat the collector car hobby and the damage they are trying to wreak on hobbyists and the multibillion dollar industry that supports us. I strongly urge you to pass this message along to any friends and to any car clubs or groups with which you may be affiliated. Please contact your own State Senator, and Senator Florez if you like, and demand they defeat this poorly conceived and counterproductive legislation. Here are some points you may wish to make in your correspondence with your Senator:

- Existing law in California exempts all pre-1974 vehicles from emissions testing until 2003. After 2003, vehicles 30-years old and older are exempt from emissions testing.
- California's current emissions testing exemption recognizes the minimal impact of vehicles 30-years old and older on vehicle emissions and air quality.
- Vehicles 30-years old and older constitute a small portion of the overall vehicle population and are a poor source from which to look for emissions reduction.
- Antique and classic vehicles are overwhelmingly well-maintained and infrequently driven (about one-third the miles each year as a new vehicle).
- Legislators and regulators are feeling the heat from a failed effort to meet air quality goals and are looking for a convenient scapegoat. The old car hobby should not carry the burden of their mistakes!

Please take the time to e-mail the following State Senators on this issue:

[senator.aanestad@sen.ca.gov](mailto:senator.aanestad@sen.ca.gov) for Sam Aanestad (Shasta and surrounding counties)

sponsoring senator Florez can be e-mailed from <http://democrats.sen.ca.gov/senator/florez/>



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Not much to tell this time. I owe Matt money for stamps, but have not actually paid him yet! We received more dues – thank you to those of you who have paid. Welcome back, Gary & Carol Anderson.

Remember, those of who have not paid by the end of March will no longer receive the newsletter beginning in April.

Here are the club finances as of February 28, 2003:

Beginning balance:	\$604.49
Inflows	\$100.00
Ending Balance	<u>\$704.49</u>

Barbara Young,  
Treasurer

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# Corporate Sponsors!

Among all of the auto-related industry in Shasta County, there are outstanding businesses that cater to British Cars, support our club or both! We want to honor these folks by giving them some exposure in the NR each month, and also by patronizing their businesses. An item on this month's meeting agenda is trying to set some criteria for inclusion on this list. Please come prepared with your ideas!

**Kevin Kay Restorations**  
**DentPro**  
**Franklin Auto Parts**

Proposed Membership Sticker (agenda item)



