



# British Boots & Bonnets Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 20  
Issue 2

February 8, 2015

Editor  
Lynda Vickery

Website  
[www.britishbootsand  
bonnets.com](http://www.britishbootsandbonnets.com)

## President's Message

February 2015

Although it took Old Man Winter a while to catch up with us this year, he has made a dramatic comeback in the last couple of weeks. The good news is that when you read the president's message next month we will all be smiling a little differently knowing that the worst is behind us. Toward that end, Jim Vickery and the Events Committee have been hard at work putting together ideas for the upcoming driving season. Look at the 2015 calendar in this issue, both for the events that are already set and for opportunities. Now is the time to dust off your favorite idea, put a little thought into its' execution and give Jim a call. He still has plenty of openings where your input would be welcome.

I know of at least four of us that are involved in our other favorite winter activity...rebuilding one of our cars. As this can be a slow time of the year for Chronicle material consider snapping a few pictures and sending a short summary to Lynda. We can all use the inspiration! Rick Hamaker and I will start the ball rolling in this issue. We want to see YOUR project next month

Finally, I would like to close each month with an advertising slogan actually used by one of the companies who built our beloved cars. I chose A.H. for the first one because Donald Healey was responsible for my first English ride, a '65 Sprite purchased in 1971. I hope that you enjoy them.

Rich

*"A winner on--or off--the track. Economical. Fast. Fun."*  
Austin-Healey Sprite 1964-



Next Meeting  
Wed.,

February 18, 2015

Thunder Bay Grille  
7652 Potawatomi Trail  
Rockford, Illinois  
(near East State Street and  
Bell School Road)

Dinner and social hour  
at 6:00pm

Meeting begins at 7:00pm

## British Boots & Bonnets Club Meeting - January 21, 2015

**President's Report:** Larry Eils called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm with 40 members present. Joining the club were new members Rich and Dee Gibson who own a new Morgan 3 Wheeler.

**Vice President:** No report.

**Secretary:** In Lew Moon's absence, Connie Frazier took minutes. A motion was made by Ron Kuhnau, seconded by Rick Hamaker, and carried to approve the minutes of the Nov. 2014 meeting.

**Treasurer:** Brian Kobischka reported on the club finances for the year 2014. A motion was made by Marv Proctor, seconded by Rick Hamaker, and carried to approve the treasurer's report.

**Membership:** Bev Joyce reported that there are now 82 BBB members. Bev and Brian are available to take dues payments.

**Regalia:** Larry noted the untimely death of long-time BBB member Jake Jaquet, a loss that will be felt by all.

**Chronicle/Newsletter:** Lynda Vickery noted the start of a new Chronicle year and welcomed articles and ideas for the publication.

**Webmaster:** No report.

**Sunshine:** Phyllis Beneditz reported that a contribution will be sent to OSF Medical Center Foundation in memory of Jake Jaquet. Also, new member John Ward has suffered a broken ankle and leg and well-wishes have gone out to him. Phyllis encouraged members to contact her if they know of a sunshine matter.

**Events: Past** – Jim Vickery noted that the January Dine was cancelled so that members could attend Jake's visitation. **Future** – Nancy Kuhnau announced that the February Dine will be 2/11 at Altamore's Ristorante. The private party will include a 5-6 course dinner (\$35 per person) and requires a paid reservation, made with either the Kuhnaus or the Vickerys by February 1. The March Dine will be held at Ebenezer Brown's in Roscoe, and the April Drive and Dine will be hosted by the Beneditzs. The January Ladies Lunch will be held at 12:30 pm on the 23rd at Garrett's, and on the same day the Men's Lunch will be at RBI's at 1:00 pm. Jim noted that the Events Committee will meet on Jan. 31 to further plan events for 2015.

**Marques: Austin Healey**-Dwain Plymale reported that the Healey club is having their Winter Dinner on March 7. **Jaguar**-no report. **Lotus**-no report. **Mini**-a Winter Banquet is scheduled for January 31. **MG**-Rick Hamaker reported that the Chicagoland MG AutoJumble (formerly the Swap Meet) has a new date of March 15, but will still be at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. **Rolls Royce**-no report. **Triumph**-no report. **New Marque Addition: Morgan**-Rich & Dee Gibson.

**Classifieds:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:** Larry extended the Club's appreciation to David Brickman for producing the 2015 BBB Calendar. It is available now for \$5 (the club is paying an additional \$2.25). Upon leaving the President's position, Larry thanked the club for a good two years. **2015 Election of Officers:** Larry called for any additional nominations. Hearing none, a vote was taken with unanimous approval of officers as slated including votes on two absentee ballots. The 2015 BBB Officers are: President Richard Cannistra, Vice-President Larry Eils, Secretary Marna Grosenick, Treasurer Brian Kobischka, Membership Bev Joyce, Events Chair Jim Vickery, Regalia Chair Jake Jaquet, Newsletter Editor Lynda Vickery, Webmaster Hal Zenisek.

**Good Wrench Award:** None.

**Ed Eggleston Burnt Piston Award:** None.

**Raffle:** Emergency tool to Solveig Maschke, safety LED flasher to Dwain Plymale, rubber jackstand pads and Thunder Bay Bucks to Rick Wagner.

**Adjournment** at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Frazier, substituting for Lew Moon

# BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS

## 2015 CALENDAR of EVENTS

- February 11 **BBB Dine** – Altamore’s Ristorante; Rockford, IL  
Host: Ron & Nancy Kuhnau, Jim & Lynda Vickery
- February 14-22 2015 Chicago Auto Show  
McCormick Place; Chicago, IL
- February 18 **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- March 11 **BBB Dine** – Ebenezer Brown;s Eatery & Pub; Roscoe, IL  
Hosts: Jim & Lynda Vickery, Larry & Marsha Eils
- March 15 British Car Swap Meet & Autojumble 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.  
DuPage County Fairgrounds; Wheaton, IL
- March 18 **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- April ? **BBB Saturday Drive** - Open  
Host: Volunteer needed
- April 8 **BBB Drive and Dine** –Leombruni’s Italian Village;  
Byron, IL  
Host: Bruce & Phyllis Beneditz
- April 15 **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- April 24-26 Spring Jefferson Car Show and Swap Meet  
Jefferson, WI
- April 25 **BBB Ladies Tea** - Open  
Hostess: Volunteer needed
- May 2 **BBB Garage Tour and Lunch**  
Host: Rich Cannistra & Ron Kuhnau
- May 13 **BBB Drive and Dine** – Frankie’s; Janesville, WI  
Host: Don & Marna Grosenick
- May 16 **BBB Tune Up & Picnic** - The Vickerys; Roscoe, IL  
Host: Jim & Lynda Vickery
- May 20 **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- May 29-31 24th Annual Champagne British Car Festival  
Bloomington, IL
- May 30-  
June 7 British Car Awareness Week
- June 8-12 MG 2015 NAMGAR/NAMGB  
Niagara Falls, Canada

June 10           **BBB Drive and Dine** – Location needed  
                           Host: Rich & Jackie Bartlett

June 17           **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
                           Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

June 18-21       Blackhawk Farms Vintage Races; South Beloit, IL

June 21           **BBB Sunday Drive** - 33rd Annual British  
                           Car Field Day; Sussex, WI  
                           Host: Volunteer needed

July 8             **BBB Drive and Dine** – Location needed  
                           Host: Volunteer needed

July 12           **BBB Sunday Drive** - The Cars Time Forgot Car Show;  
                           Lake Lawn Resort, Wis.  
                           Host: Volunteer needed

July 15           **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
                           Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

July 18           **BBB Saturday Drive**  
                           Host: Volunteer needed

August 2          Coffee in the Park; Lake Mills, WI  
                           Host: Volunteer needed

August 7-9       University Motors MG Summer Party Reunion (John Twist)  
                           Grand Rapids, MI

August 9          Botham Vineyards 19th Vintage Celebration  
                           Barneveld, WI

August 12         **BBB Drive and Dine** – Location needed  
                           Host: Volunteer needed

August 19         **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
                           Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

August 22-24     2015 Geneva Concours d'Elegance;  
                           Geneva, IL

August 22-23     Wisconsin Jaguars Concours/Milwaukee Masterpiece  
                           Veterans Park; Milwaukee, WI

August 26         **BBB Friends Around the Campfire** - The Eils;Harvard,IL  
                           Hosts: Larry & Marsha Eils

August 29         **BBB Saturday Drive** - Crossroads Blues Festival; Lyran  
                           Park; Rockford, IL  
                           Hosts: Bev Joyce & Brian Kobischka

Sept 6            **BBB Club Picnic** - Liberty Farm; Woodstock, IL  
                           Hosts: Ed & Luz Lehman

Sept 9            **BBB Drive and Dine** - Duck Inn; Delavan, WI  
                           Hosts: Bruce & Phyllis Beneditz

Sept 13           29th Annual Chicagoland British Car Festival  
                           Harper College; Palatine, IL

- Sept 16           **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- Sept 17-20       **BBB Northwoods Long Weekend**; Eagle River, WI  
Hosts: Mary Jo Schoening, Rick & Sandy Hamaker
- Sept 17-20       VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival  
Road America; Plymouth, WI
- Sept 25-27       Fall Jefferson Car Show and Swap Meet  
Jefferson, WI
- October 3         **BBB Fall Drive**  
Hosts: Larry & Marsha Eils
- October 14       **BBB Drive and Dine** –Location needed  
Host: Volunteer needed
- October 21       **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- November 11     **BBB Dine** –Location needed  
Host: Volunteer needed
- November 18     **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant
- December 2       **BBB Cookie Exchange**  
Host: Mary Jo Schoening
- December 16     **BBB Christmas Party**  
Host: Bev Joyce

**Boots & Bonnets Chronicle is a newsletter published monthly by the British Boots and Bonnets Car Club of Rockford, Illinois.**

**2015 Officers & Contacts:**

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## Loren “Jake” Jaquet

Dec 7, 1943 - Jan 8, 2015

The Beatitude says: Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

We mourn the loss a good friend, a Fellow member of our car club. He was a past President of our Club and active in all our Events. Jake and Donna gave selflessly in providing regalia for our members many years. He will be missed by all who knew him.

We draw Comfort from many sources. One of those sources may be the strength and comfort that comes from, Family and Friends. It is important to be together, to touch, to talk, and to share memories. The people in our lives are important.

Sometime those special places: the sanctuary of the church; or lake side; or mountain top; a sacred space somewhere in our hearts, can be a source of comfort. Certainly prayer and communion with the almighty is a place to take concerns and find answers. When there is no place else, we pray in the privacy of our own thoughts.

Perhaps the most important of all are the memories we have of the times we have spent together. At many of our BBB Meetings Jake and Donna provided us with Jackets, hats, shirts and badges that most of the club members wear or display. These now take on a new importance for us. We recall the Drive and Dines where Big Jake’s presence was felt and appreciated. We will never forget the many Potato Gun Picnics and valve cover races at the Jaquet Home south of Byron.

We will all remember the times we were with Jake. The LAST TIME!... How final it sounds! The last time is indelible. The last time is memorable. The last word, the last laugh, the last mile, the last meal, the Last drive!

However, the last is just the last: and it suggests that there might be a next. As Christians, we live in the hope this won't be the last time we see Jake.

Can't you see it now? Jake is working with Jack Joyce, Al Hutson, Wayne McKenna, Tom and Lois Ullock, Jim Spaight, Steve Schoening, Jim Parrish, Ed Eggleston, Rita Kindgren, Pam Hanson, John Fleshman, Dan Marshall, Joe and Evelyn Furmanek, Ed Fila and Nancy Proctor on plans for a BBB car Show and Tune Down Picnic. He's in great company!!!! We have lost too many of our membership over the years, it is only right to remember them and the way they all have touched our lives. Jake touched our lives in many memorable ways, he will not be forgotten!

*This is a verse of a song I personally like. You might have one more appropriate.*

And when at last the mists of time have vanished And I in truth, my faith confirmed, shall see, I'll enter there where earthly ills are banished O Lord My God, to dwell in peace with thee. Then sings my Soul, How great thou art.
--

Our thoughts and hearts as well as those of the entire BBB community are with Donna, family and friends who share good and smiling memories of “Big Jake”.

Lew Moon



## John "Jack" Ryan

Jan 8, 1943 - Jan 23, 2015

British Boots & Bonnets also lost another longtime member in January. John A. "Jack" Ryan, 72, of Rockford passed away Friday, January 23, 2015, in OSF St. Anthony Medical Center.

Born January 8, 1943, in Rockford; the son of Raphael "Shorty" and Viola (Gibbs) Ryan. Jack attended West High School. He received his accounting degree from Northern Illinois University, later working for Amerock in their accounting department. Jack retired from Precision Products Group. Jack was a PADI Certified Scuba instructor and taught many people at the YWCA. His love of Scuba involved him as an executive for "Our World Under Water". As a Harley Davidson enthusiast, he wrote for Thunder Press magazine.

He is survived by his children, Shawn (Cathy) Ryan and Jason Ryan; grandchildren, Haley Ryan and Cameron Ryan; mother of his children, Diane Ryan; siblings, Kathryn "Kitty" O'Connor, Phyllis Anderson, and Patricia Meyer..



### Get Your 2015 BBB club Calendar

by Larry Eils

The 2015 British Boots and Bonnets Car Club calendar is ready for purchase. The cost is \$5.00 per calendar. The club is subsidizing the cost (paying \$2.75 per calendar) to reduce the price. This is a great way to remember the fun times we experienced driving our cars in 2014.

Please join me in thanking Dave Brickman for all the time and effort he has put into creating the 2015 club calendar. This is Dave's second year at creating the calendar and they just keep getting better. We also want to thank all the club members who have taken pictures during the year and shared them with Dave.

So pickup your 2015 BBB Club calendar(s) at the February meeting before they are all gone. The price is right!

## BBB WEBSITE UPDATE

The club's website is current and up-to-date as of January 1, 2015. There many new pictures from various fall and winter activities now posted under the Events section. The 2015 monthly calendars are published, and pending events for the year. The officers page will be updated this month pending the election results and new officer appointments. This month would be a great time to check-out our website; simply go to [www.britishbootsandbonnets.com](http://www.britishbootsandbonnets.com) and navigate around any pages of interest. Your traffic to the website will help others find the BBB on the worldwide web in the future. As always, your feedback and suggestions will be appreciated.

On that note, please email me if you know of any British car or related events coming up for 2015 that you think other car owners and club members might be interested in. I'll add them to the club's calendar of events as time and space allow. Consider state, regional or national events for your favorite marque. Also remember we have a For Sale section and a Regalia Store site available to club members. You can email me if you want to post anything for sale on the website, and I'll be happy to walk through the details.

Best wishes for 2015!

Hal Zenisek, BBB Webmaster  
Email: [hzenisek@tds.net](mailto:hzenisek@tds.net)

### DID – U – KNOW by Facia Nearside

At the 1958 Earl's Court Motor Show a beautiful new British sports coupe debuted, the Peerless GT. It had a sexy fiberglass body, could travel at over 110 mph and seat four adults in comfort. The engine and transmission were lifted directly from a Triumph TR3 while the name was taken from, yes.....an American truck. An unusual combination to be certain, but as is often the case there were many unexpected turns along the way.

In 1911, the Cleveland, Ohio based Peerless Motors began making trucks for the U.S. Army. When WWI broke out, England bought 12,000 of the trucks for use in Europe. At war's end, with so many surplus trucks scattered around the continent, a company called Slough Lorries LTD was set up to refurbish and sell these trucks to the civilian market. Fast forward 30 years and that company decided to try their hand at making automobiles. Now known as Peerless Cars LTD, they chose the only name that they knew and called their product the Peerless GT. Although production ended in 1960 after only 325 units, you can still find one more easily today than one of those 12,000 trucks!

As for one last twist.....the name Peerless did not become an issue between the two companies on opposite sides of the Atlantic. That's because Peerless Motors of Cleveland, Ohio abruptly shifted gears in 1931 and began producing beer instead of vehicles. You know it today as Carling Black Label.



# WINTER CAR REBUILDS

## ROXANN CANNISTRA'S JAGUAR PROJECT 2015



"Because this year's project is her car, Roxann wanted to contribute...until she got started!"



## WINTERTIME TRAVELLER PROJECT 2015

By Rick Hamaker

My Traveller project has moved for the winter from an unheated garage to the basement workshop. There is a limited amount of mechanical stuff you can do in the workshop, so most efforts are going into finishing the wood parts. There are approximately ninety-five wood parts in the Traveller, some of which are built into assemblies, such as the side timber frames and the rear doors. Most of this wood requires several coats of spar varnish. This is the best material for UV and weather protection. It also remains somewhat flexible so that joints aren't as likely to open up with atmospheric changes.

It's a time consuming process. Each coat of varnish must dry for at least a day before it can be sanded. So, we're talking about at least two days for each coat to dry, get sanded, and the next coat applied. I might also mention that most of the parts had to be stripped of the old finish and sanded before any new finishing could begin. If you come to my house you had better be ready for that sweet aroma of varnish in the air!



The assemblies pictured are the side timber frames. One of the frames that came on the car was in fair condition and was restorable. The other side had joints that were so rotted out that the whole thing had to be replaced. While all of the wood parts are available from England, they're expensive. Since I had found a local source for the Ash material, I opted to build the frame from scratch. This was accomplished only through the wonderful generosity in terms of time, equipment, facilities and expertise of my friend, Ed Lehman. Not only is Ed an expert woodworker, he is also a machinist at heart. All of the joints were made to micrometer precision on a vertical mill used in metalworking. You won't find better wood joints anywhere! Thanks, Ed!

So there you have it. A lot of work has been done, but there is still much to do. One must remain optimistic. Perhaps 2015 will be the year!



## 2015 EVENTS COMMITTEE SETS A FUN-FILLED AGENDA

Your BBB Events Committee met recently to fill the 2015 calendar with various events for club members to enjoy. In addition to our monthly meetings at Thunder Bay, the monthly *Drive and Dine*, or *Dine* during the winter months is always popular. There will be our annual garage tour, ladies tea, and Labor Day Picnic before getting into December with our cookie exchange and Christmas Party.



Our Long Weekend planning is already underway, and a new Saturday event this year, attending a Blues Fest.



If you look at at the Calendar of Events, you will notice there are still some event openings. Just because the committee has put



many events into our calendar, there is still room for you to suggest events that may interest the club, or for you to volunteer to host. Please contact Jim Vickery with your suggestions, thoughts, or questions.

## FEBRUARY DINE!

by Lynda Vickery

Twenty-two BBB members have made reservations to attend dinner at Altamore's Ristorante on Wednesday, February 11th.

This will be a wonderful evening of great food and hospitality. A perfect opportunity to visit with BBB members.

## DINE FOR MARCH AT EBENEZER BROWN'S

by Lynda Vickery

Ebenezer Brown's Eatery & Pub is a new restaurant in Roscoe, IL, located in the building where DeGenovici's used to be, 4866 Bluestem Road. This is right behind CVS Pharmacy and Schucks.

Plan to arrive at 6:30 to join fellow BBB enthusiasts to eat some good food, enjoy a beverage, and talk "car talk".

Please call Jim or Lynda Vickery if you have any questions. Larry & Marsha Eils will be hosting at the restaurant.

## ALL BRITISH CAR SWAP MEET AND AUTOJUMBLE

The annual swap meet and autojumble will be held Sunday, March 15, 2015 from 8 am until 2 pm at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, IL.

The BBB club will again rent space at the meet so that club members can showcase any parts they would like to sell. Our space will

include tables and chairs. Dig through those boxes and shelves and bring car related things you don't need to the swap meet. Maybe you will sell more than you buy!

## HEADS UP FOR AUGUST EVENT!

by Brian Kobischka

A new event is being added to the Club's activities this year. On Saturday August 29 we will caravan to Lyran Park (south of Rockford near the airport) to spend a day enjoying the blues in a great outdoor venue. The Crossroads Blues Society is holding their 6th annual Blues Fest with performances starting at noon. The headliner, Albert Castiglia is scheduled for 8:00. It will be a great day of entertainment with advance ticket price of only \$5. An assortment of food and drink will be available. Stay tuned for more information and pray for great weather!

### Welcome New Members!

New membership applications are available on the club's website. Register by sending your completed application to:

Brian Kobischka, Treasurer  
British Boots and Bonnets Car Club  
PMB 254

1643 North Alpine Rd. Suite 104  
Rockford, IL 61107

[brian.kobi@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.kobi@yahoo.com)

Include \$20 annual membership dues plus a one-time fee of \$10 for name tags

MG MORGAN TRIUMPH



LOTUS JAGUAR AUSTIN HEALEY

AUTHORIZED AGENT

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**North American MGB Register**

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Mailing Label Here



Next Meeting  
**Wednesday, February 18, 2015**  
Thunder Bay Grille  
7652 Potawatomi Trail, Rockford, Illinois  
(near East State Street and Bell School Road),  
**Dinner and social hour at 6:00pm.**  
**Meeting begins at 7:00pm**