



# British Boots & Bonnets Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 19  
Issue 4

April 7, 2014

Editor  
Lynda Vickery

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

Next Meeting  
**Wed.,  
April 16, 2014**

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**

## President's Message

April 2014

Well, it's April and the driving season is about to begin. Now if it would just warm up enough to work in the garage so we can work on our cars, we just might get to actually drive our British cars to the Drive and Dine.

Take a look at the Events Calendar and check out the many events that have been added. Our first Drive and Dine takes place in April, but I'm not sure what cars we will be driving. There are still a number of Drive and Dines in need of a host. So think of your favorite dining spot and see if it will work. If so, let Jim Vickery know so he can get your Drive and Dine on the calendar.

The long weekend this year is going to be quite an event. Please read the article in this issue of the Chronicle describing the planned activities and start making your plans to participate. We should see beautiful fall foliage and great views of Lake Michigan, Superior and Huron in one trip. Can't beat that for a trip.

If you haven't paid your dues for 2014 now is the time. As you can see, we are an active club and have fun driving and eating. We hope you will continue to be a part of the fun.

With April showers comes May flowers and our first drive of the year. It seems DeKalb has some hidden treasures. We are off to visit two of those treasures, the Ellwood Mansion and Aquaviva Winery for a wine tasting. Dinner will be at Sorrento's, an actual supper club in northern Illinois. How about that. Let's hope we will have our cars running and the weather will be warm by Saturday, May 10th.

Think Spring.

**Larry Eils**

*Words of Wisdom: "Shut all the electronics off .., at least for an hour, then go for a walk in the wood's, and there you may find peace" – [Jerril Thomas Abraham](#)*



## March 19, 2014 British Boots and Bonnets Membership Meeting

**President's report:** Larry Eils called the meeting to order at 7:06 with 38 members in attendance.

**Vice President:** no report

**Secretary:** The minutes from the February meeting were approved with a motion by Ron Kuhnau, seconded by Lyn Pond. Thanks to Connie Fraser for taking the minutes for February!

**Treasurer:** Brian Kobischka reported on financials for the month where then approved.

|

**Membership:** Bev Joyce reported that are 59 paid members.

**Regalia:** Jake Jaquet brought 10 new hats along with other regalia to sell.

**Chronicle/Newsletter:** Lynda Vickery thanked everyone for getting reports/news to her early so that the newsletter could be printed early. Larry Eils shared that we have small, business-type cards with club info on. You can put them on the windshield of a British car that you may see when you are out and about. It could help fellow enthusiasts to find/join our club.

**Webmaster:** Hal Zenisek reported that there have been 3 contacts made through the website. One message was to inform us of the Iowa Car Club's gathering in Ames, Iowa the first Saturday in June.

**Sunshine:** Phyllis Beneditz talked to Lee Kindgren. He said Rita is progressing slowly and would be returning home in a few days. Jackie Bartlett has fallen and injured her wrist/arm.

**Events:** Past- The Jacquets hosted the March 12 at Salamone's with 23 people enjoying good food together.

**Future:** March 28 at 12:30, Ladies Luncheon at Eggsceptional on Cherry Vale Mall perimeter. Men will meet March 28, at 1:00 at Fib's in Rockton for lunch. March 30: British Car Swap Meet in Wheaton at DuPage College. BBB will have a table so you can bring items to be sold. April 9: Dine is at Cursing Stone Pub in Janesville at the Glen Erin Golf Course. April 26 at 11:30: Joan Tilson will host the Ladies Tea. Sandy Hamaker asks that we RSVP letting Sandy or Joan know if you are bringing a savory or a sweet. You may bring your favorite tea cup. On April 26 is Men's Garage Tour. If you have suggestion of where to go that day, please contact Jim Vickery. June 15-19 in French Lick, IN is the North American MGB Register which is open to all cars. There is a group going but the hotel/resort has a waiting list. In September, there will be a 4 night trip that will include crossing Lake Michigan on a ferry, driving up to Sault St Marie before returning home. Many more details to come.

**Marques:** MG-see above about the French Lick convention. July 12, 13-Mad Dogs and Englishmen at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan. The museum is considered one of the best car museums in the country. July 14-18- MGA Register in Ottawa, Ontario. Check the [website-GT39@namgar.com](http://GT39@namgar.com); **Jaguar, Austin Healey, Lotus, Rolls Royce** reported no known events. **Minis:** Larry Eils reported that there is a mini rally in Milwaukee in July. Jake Jaquet reminded us that April 12, 13 Keith Country Day School hosts Classics and Chrome at the Old Menard's building in Loves Park.

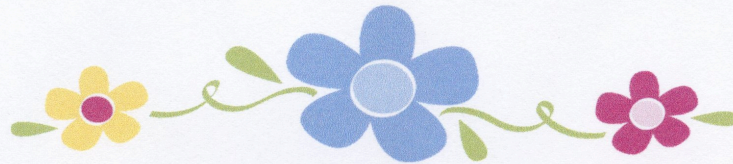
**Classifieds:** none **Unfinished business:** none **New Business:** Moss Motors brochures are available. You visit places on the list during the year and can win money for visiting the most.

**Good Wrench Award:** none **Ed Eggleston Burnt Piston Award:** none

**Raffle:** Emergency flasher and wire ties to Phyllis Beneditz; Polishing towel, detail spray and wire ties to Bruce Ahman; ratchet strap, bungee set and wire ties to Marsha Eils, Ed Lehman bowl to Bev Joyce; Thunder Bay bucks to Diana Suzy and Donna Jaquet.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Respectfully Submitted by Fran Cameron**



## British Boots and Bonnets

### Ladies Tea

Saturday April 26, 2013

11:30 AM

Joan Tilson will be hosting the annual Ladies Tea at her home on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. We will enjoy sandwiches, cakes, cookies, and plenty of tea. You are welcome to bring a favorite tea cup and saucer. When you R.S.V.P, let us know if you would like to bring a sweet or a savory. Finger food only, please. So don your spring bonnet and join us for some tasty goodies and great socializing.

R.S.V.P. to Sandy Hamaker, co-hostess 815-229-8182

Sandy will give you directions to **Joan's home**.



# BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS

## 2014 CALENDAR of EVENTS

- April 9                   **BBB Drive and Dine** –The Cursing Stone Pub @  
Glen Erin Golf Club; Janesville, WI  
Host: Jim and Lynda Vickery
- April 12-13               Classics and Chrome 2014 Car Show  
Location: 10253 N. 2nd St., Machesney Park, IL
- April 16                   **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- April 25-27               Spring Jefferson Car Show and Swap Meet  
Jefferson, WI
- April 26                   **BBB Ladies Tea** - Joan Tilson's Home; Rockford, IL  
Hostess: Joan Tilson  
Co-Hostess: Sandy Hamaker
- May 3                     **BBB Garage Tour and Lunch**  
Host: Volunteer needed
- May 10                   **BBB Saturday Drive** - History and Wine; DeKalb, IL area  
Host: Jackie and Jay Coffey
- May 14                   **BBB Drive and Dine** – O'Riley Conner Irish Pub; Janesville, WI  
Host: Don and Marna Grosenick
- May 17                   **BBB Tune Up & Picnic** – The Vickerys'; Roscoe, IL  
Host: Jim & Lynda Vickery
- May 21                   **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- May 28 - 31               Jensen Nationals East; Monroe, WI  
contact: <http://jenseneast.org/index.html>
- May 30 - June 1         ♦23rd Annual Champagne British Car Festival  
Bloomington, IL
- May 31-  
June 8                   British Car Awareness Week
- June 7                   **BBB Saturday Drive** – TBD  
Host: Volunteer needed
- June 11                   **BBB Drive and Dine** – Location needed  
Host: Volunteer needed
- June 14-15               Blackhawk Farms Vintage Races; South Beloit, IL
- June 15                   33rd Annual British Car Field Day  
Sussex, WI
- June 15-19               MG 2014 NAMGAR/NAMGB  
French Lick, IN
- June 18                   **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- June 21                   Scottish Highland Games & Car Show; Itasca, IL

July 2-6 Mini Meet: East Meets West 2014  
Milwaukee, WI

July 9 **BBB Drive and Dine** – Location needed  
Host: Volunteer needed

July 12-13 Mad Dogs & Englishmen Auto Faire XXIV; Kalamazoo, MI  
July 16 **BBB Club Meeting**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

July 19 **BBB Saturday Drive** - Kickapoo Creek Winery & Cafe;  
Edwards, IL; Wheels O’Time Museum; Dunlap, IL  
Hosts: Jim and Lynda Vickery

July 25-26 Illinois Jaguar Club Concours d’Elegance;  
Naperville Country Club; Naperville, IL

August 10 Botham Vineyards 19th Vintage Celebration  
Barneveld, WI

August 13 **BBB Drive and Dine** – Flight Deck Bar and Grill; Rochelle, IL  
Hosts: Bev Joyce and Brian Kobischka

August 15-17 University Motors MG Summer Party Reunion (John Twist);  
Grand Rapids, MI

August 17 Orphan Auto Picnic; Kendall County Fairgrounds, Yorkville, IL  
August 20 **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

August 23-24 Wisconsin Jaguars Concours/Milwaukee Masterpiece  
Veterans Park; Milwaukee, WI

August 24 2014 Geneva Concours d’Elegance; Geneva, IL  
August 31 **BBB Club Picnic**, Liberty Farm; Woodstock, IL  
Hosts: Ed and Luz Lehman

Sept 3-7 **BBB Long Weekend** - Lake Michigan Crossing on the SS  
Badger; Manitowac, WI to Ludington, MI; Sault Ste. Marie,  
MI; Menominee/Marinette  
Hosts: Rich and Roxann Cannistra

Sept 7 28th Annual Chicagoland British Car Festival  
Harper College; Palatine, IL

Sept 10 **BBB Drive and Dine** – Location needed  
Host: Volunteer needed

Sept 12-14 VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival  
Road America; Plymouth, WI

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

Sept 26-28 Fall Jefferson Car Show and Swap Meet  
Jefferson, WI

October 4 **BBB Saturday Drive** - TBD  
Hosts: Volunteer Needed

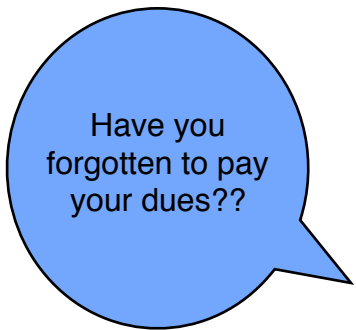
October 8 **BBB Drive and Dine** –Location needed  
Host: Volunteer needed

- October 15      **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- November 12    **BBB Dine** -Location needed  
Host: Volunteer needed
- November 19    **BBB CLUB MEETING**  
Thunder Bay Restaurant
- December 10    **BBB Cookie Exchange**  
Host: Mary Jo Schoening
- December 17    **BBB Christmas Party** - Lino's Restaurant

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

**2014 Officers & Contacts:**

Larry Eils, President	<a href="mailto:rpeonygarden@gmail.com">rpeonygarden@gmail.com</a>	815-943-4720
Doug Cameron, Vice-President	<a href="mailto:rome424@comcast.net">rome424@comcast.net</a>	815-394-1418
Fran Cameron, Secretary	<a href="mailto:rome424@comcast.net">rome424@comcast.net</a>	815-394-1418
Brian Kobischka, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:brian.kobi@yahoo.com">brian.kobi@yahoo.com</a>	815-871-5202
Bev Joyce, Membership	<a href="mailto:Andsewon53@comcast.net">Andsewon53@comcast.net</a>	815-885-3368
Jim Vickery, Events Chair	<a href="mailto:jim.vickery@yahoo.com">jim.vickery@yahoo.com</a>	815-623-5611
Jake Jaquet, Regalia Chair	<a href="mailto:jakescars1@gmail.com">jakescars1@gmail.com</a>	815-234-8057
Hal Zenisek, Webmaster	<a href="mailto:hzenisek@tds.net">hzenisek@tds.net</a>	815-397-3653
Lynda Vickery, Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:jim.vickery@yahoo.com">jim.vickery@yahoo.com</a>	815-623-5611
Phyllis Beneditz, Sunshine	<a href="mailto:phyllisquilts@charter.net">phyllisquilts@charter.net</a>	815-543-1741



It's that time of year again! In addition to paying your taxes, it's time to renew your membership with British Boots & Bonnets. Please send your \$20 renewal fee to:

British Boots & Bonnets Car Club  
5411 E. State Street, PMB 394  
Rockford, IL 61108



## MARCH DINE

by Jim Vickery

The Club met on March 12th at Salamone's in Cherry Valley for a great Italian dinner. Some of us had been there before, but for many of us it had been a long time. The 23 people that attended seemed to enjoy their dinners very much. The service was excellent and the accommodations were good.

The event was hosted by Jake and Donna Jaquet. A big **thank you** to them for selecting and planning a great destination.

We still have several Drive and Dines without hosts or locations. If you have a restaurant that you enjoy and feel that the Club would also enjoy it, please email or contact me and I can help walk you through the very limited amount of planning required of the hosts.





## **BRITISH CAR SWAP MEET & AUTOJUMBLE**

by Jim Vickery

The annual swap meet date was moved this year to the end of March. This might have been why there was a low turnout of BBB members taking advantage of the reserved space for the sale. The only members with items for sale at the table were Bruce Beneditz, Rick Hamaker and myself. Between Bruce and I, we sold nearly \$300 worth of things from my attic, Bruce's attic, and pieces from the parts car that Bruce and I purchased when Bruce was building his midget. There were also a fewer BBB members than normal attending the swap meet. This was the 14th year for the swap meet and is a great way to get rid of the bits (pieces) taking up space in your attic, garage, or basement; thereby picking up fresh cash to buy more bits for your LBC.



## **APRIL DRIVE & DINE**

by Jim Vickery

The April Drive and Dine location will be the Cursing Stone Pub at Glen Erin Golf Club near the Janesville Airport, off Rte 51. This drive will be hosted by Jim and Lynda Vickery. Those wishing to caravan should meet at Roscoe Middle School at 5:45 for a short ride North. Those wishing to go directly to the Pub should be there at 6:30, and please let the Vickery's know you are coming so they can inform the Pub of how many will be attending. Phone 815-623-5611. Email [jim.vickery@yahoo.com](mailto:jim.vickery@yahoo.com). The address is 1417 West Airport Rd, Janesville, WI. The menu is primarily sandwiches and wraps.

## **BBB LADIES TEA**

by Lynda Vickery

Ladies, be sure to find your invitation to The British Boots & Bonnets Tea as a separate page in this copy of the Chronicle! Joan Tilson and Sandy Hamaker are planning a wonderful party to usher in Spring and our Club's Driving Season. Be sure to mark Saturday, April 26th on your calendar.

## **GARAGE TOUR DATE CHANGED TO MAY 3rd**

by Rich Cannistra

The 2014 garage tour has been moved one week to Saturday May 3rd. Once again two new and exciting locations have been ferreted out by your garage tour committee. Both promise to peak the interest of any serious gear head. It will be a fun day!

We will meet at the Roscoe Middle School at 8:15 a.m. for a 8:30 a.m. departure. Taking appropriate back roads our first destination is in Elkhorn, WI. This garage is a very retro creation and the owner will explain to us his motivation and displays.

Leaving Elkhorn we will stop in Walworth, WI for lunch on our way to the afternoon location in Loves Park, IL. This eclectic collection is enough to make American Pickers drool, but they don't know where it is, only we do. Both garages will astound you with many fine items from a by-gone era.

For persons wishing to meet the group directly at the first garage or for lunch, contact Rich Cannistra. For anyone wishing to catch up with us at the afternoon location, contact Ron Kuhnau. Mark your calendar for /Saturday May 3rd, the 2014 BBB Garage Tour.

## **HISTORY AND WINE - A WINNING COMBINATION FOR OUR FIRST DRIVING EVENT**

by Jackie Coffey & Larry Eils

Hosted by Jay and Jackie Coffey

On Saturday, May 10, 2014 we're going south to DeKalb (warmer down south). We will gather at Noon at Kegel's Motorcycle Store, southwest corner of Harrison and Perryville Roads. So have an early lunch, or do a drive through. We will depart at 12:15 p.m.

To start our day, Larry and Marsha Eils will lead you on a short drive to DeKalb where we will visit the Ellwood Mansion. In 1879 Isaac Ellwood built a fabulous 3 floor mansion. A one hour tour (\$6/person) will reveal how Isaac formed a partnership in 1874 with Joseph Glidden to form the world's first barbed wire factory. By 1879, 50 million

pounds of barbed wire were being purchased annually, and Isaac was on his way to becoming one of the wealthiest men in Illinois. There is a gift shop for those interested.

Then we're off to Aquaviva Winery for a tasting (\$6/person). This family owned 40 acre estate vineyard grows all their own grapes to produce 11 handcrafted estate wines. You will be amazed at the Mediterranean style winery sitting on top of a hill. They also have an interesting gift shop.

To end the evening we will visit Sorrento's, an "old fashioned" supper club right here in northern Illinois, for dinner. They serve Italian and American Cuisine specializing in Prime Rib.

Should you have questions, please call or email us. We are looking forward to seeing you on the club's first driving event of the year. Coffey's phone: (847)204-3115; email: Fivegates@att.net.

### **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**  
5411 E. State Street, PMB 394  
Rockford, IL 61108  
[brian.kobi@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.kobi@yahoo.com)

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

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE OTHER MAY EVENTS!**

May 14 BBB Drive and Dine. Don and Marna Grosenick are planning a great outing to the O'Riley Conner Irish Pub in Janesville. Sure to be a fun time!

May 17 BBB Spring Tune Up and Picnic. Hosted by Jim and Lynda Vickery, their garage will be open for car work before a picnic.

### **WEBMASTER REPORT FOR APRIL**

1. The monthly driving & event calendars for 2014 are finished and posted on the website. They were updated based on the latest information on hand. Check out [www.britishbootsandbonnets.com](http://www.britishbootsandbonnets.com) and let me know if you have any additional changes or new and different car related events to recommend. Also, please let me know if event plans change in the future.
2. As I mentioned at the last club meeting, the Iowa British Car Club & the Michianna club are both planning British car shows this summer and have invited us to drive over and participate in their events. Check out the June and July calendars for links to their car club & car show websites.
3. Your favorite car, club, & event related pictures are always welcome. They make wonderful additions to our events & members pages. Attach them to an email & send them to me at [hzenisek@tds.net](mailto:hzenisek@tds.net).
4. BBB driving guidelines are now posted on the website in case you lose your printed copy. Simply go to the Officers page, and there you can download the most recent version of the driver, leader, or non-member driving guidelines.
5. I welcome your suggestions and comments for the website at any time. Email me, call, or catch me at one of the monthly meetings. I will appreciate hearing your ideas for improving our presence on the world wide web.

Hal Zenisek, BBB Webmaster

## BBB MICHIGAN ADVENTURE 2014

by Rich Cannistra

As one of the most onerous winters on record finally begins to retreat in the rearview mirror the dream of LBC driving looms large. While snowbound in our winter cave, the BBB Events Committee has been hard at work planning post hibernation activities. We are pleased to announce the club long weekend in September and believe that it will be a gem. The possibility also exists that this is an adventure that will never be able to be repeated. Let me explain.



Just 175 miles north of Rockford at Manitowoc, WI, one of the most unusual ferry boats in the United States plies its trade. The SS Badger, launched in 1953, still uses coal for fuel as it crosses Lake Michigan. It is the only remaining passenger carrying boat in the United States using this type of propulsion, and it may soon be forced to retire. Using coal for fuel is not the problem, the disposing of the ashes is. You see, the Badger simply dumps the ashes overboard, and this practice has now been deemed unacceptable. After fighting for its life in the court system for many years the Badger has been issued one final ultimatum: install an ash retention system by January 1, 2015 or cease operation. It is believed that the conversion will be accomplished in time for next year's sailing, but this outcome is less than certain. For that reason this might be the last opportunity to experience a unique bit of history right here in our own backyard.

In a nutshell, the trip we plan is as follows. Depart on Wednesday September 3rd and drive to Manitowoc, WI in time to sail on the SS Badger departing at 2 p.m. Following our 4 hour crossing we arrive in Ludington, MI and remain overnight. Day 2 will find us driving along the Michigan shoreline enjoying the beautiful scenery. We will stop at a winery and have lunch between Suttons Bay and Traverse City. Continuing north we will enjoy the splendid views along Torch Lake, considered to be the third most beautiful lake in the world. Our stop for the evening will be in Petoskey, a charming town on Little Traverse Bay. The next morning we pass through the world famous Tunnel of Trees, with plenty of time to enjoy its spectacular views. After lunch it is on across the Mackinac Bridge into the upper peninsula with Sault Ste. Marie, MI as our destination for day 3. At Sault Ste. Marie the Soo Locks on the Saint Mary's River between the United States and Canada are the largest waterway management system on earth. Friday evening dinner will be a buffet aboard a tour boat as we cruise through the locks experiencing the operation of this engineering marvel. On day 4 we will drive west along the upper peninsula shoreline. We will be heading to Menominee, MI for the night with a lunch stop planned for picturesque Manistique. During this last day in Michigan spectacular views, lighthouses and other historic sites will compete for our attention. Sunday as we depart toward home, Green Bay will be directly in our path. Stadium tours anyone?

Group arrangements have been made for the Lake Michigan crossing (SS Badger) and the Soo Locks Dinner Cruise. There is a block of hotel rooms reserved for each night's stay as well. Please refer to the following information for prices, locations and dates. You must confirm your own reservation choice at each of these venues. We have obtained the best possible rate at each of these locations but it is possible that an additional discount could be available for factors such as age, AAA or AARP membership, frequent British car driver, etc. so please inquire at the time you make your reservation. Also, please contact Roxann Cannistra to let us know that you will be joining in on the fun so that we are sure that our preparations are adequate.

**Reservation information:**

**SS Badger-September 3** 800-841-4243 Our group identification code is "BBB". Use this code each time you call as it identifies our group which is receiving a 20% discount (if we number 15 or more). Book the 2 p.m. departure. The automobile as well as each person traveling is a separate reservation, and the 20% discount applies only to persons.

**Day 1-September 3** Ludington, MI Summer's Inn 231-843-3448 Ask for Suzette Rooms \$88-\$110 depending on bed size

**Day 2-September 4** Petoskey, MI Apple Tree Inn 800-348-2901 Ask for Larry Rooms \$89

**Day 3-September 5** Sault Ste. Marie, MI Holiday Inn Express 800-632-7879 Rooms \$90

**Day 4-September 6** Menominee, MI AmericInn Lodge and Suites 906-863-8699 Rooms \$90 Queen bed

**Soo Locks Dinner Cruise** Friday September 5th Price for dinner and cruise about \$50 per person. Reservation information, details and dinner choices at a later date.

Finally, the following six club members are committed to making this a great trip, and possibly a once in a lifetime adventure. Please contact any of us if you have additional questions.

Respectfully,  
Rich and Roxann Cannistra  
Jim and Lynda Vickery  
Larry and Marsha Eils

FOR SALE!

MGTD 1953

Ivory color exterior, black interior, four cylinder ,in great condition, good runner. Every instrument works except the small clock in the speedometer . There are 44,000 miles and the engine is clean .The roof and side curtains are in excellent condition, (All manuals, and work books included) Second owner, \$16,500.

Call 815-337-4105 or  
815-236-6868 Tom Dahlfors

FOR SALE!

MGB 1980 Limited Edition

Black exterior and interior. Basically all original, no rust, owned since 1980, have all manuals,work - service books, 36,000 miles ,manual transmission (no over drive) runs like a top, great car. Also have extra parts and all covers, \$8500.

Call 815-337-4105 or  
815-236-6868 Tom Dahlfors

# 14TH ANNUAL CLASSICS & CHROME CAR SHOW

**APRIL 12 – APRIL 13**

**9:00 AM to 6:00 PM      9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**10253 N. 2nd Street, Machesney Park, IL**

**\$8.00 ADMISSION - CHILDREN UNDER 10 FREE**

This event is a fund raiser to benefit the Keith Country Day School Forever Keith Fund, which supports tuition grants and student program enhancements. From the funds raised, KCDS offers tuition scholarships, summer enrichment camp opportunities through Rock Valley College, and supports science teachers to serve as guest instructors at Nicholas Conservatory. In 2013-14, KCDS offered \$125,000 in scholarships to area families for school and summer programs.

- Previous shows have attracted over 10,000 visitors to the two day community event.
- Classics and Chrome is the Midwest's premier indoor car show.
- Each year a new selection of over 120 vehicles are displayed making this show the most unique in the Midwest.
- Annually, 5000 show catalogs are printed and valued by the over 150,000 attendees the show has hosted over the last 14 years.
- Two cash prize raffle drawings are held. The Grand Raffle offers the chance to win over \$33,000 in cash and the Super 50/50 Raffle allows the winner to receive 50% of tickets sold.
- Advertising strategies have been expanded to Beloit, Janesville, Madison, Milwaukee.
- WGN advertising will be included in the 2014 marketing plan.
- Over 100 volunteers, from across the community, assist with organization of the show.
- Approximately 15 vendors bring their services and products for sales during the show.

## DID-U-KNOW

by Facia Nearside

The idea that a British luxury automobile marque would be founded by an American opera singer and named after a river in Ohio sounds like a tale too tall to be true. Indeed it probably would have seemed unlikely as well to the 32 year old preacher's son who accomplished it.

Born in Springfield, Ohio, Wilbur Gunn relocated from the United States to Britain at the age of 32 in order to pursue his career in opera. Soon he became interested in motorcycles however, and began building them in the garden of his house in Staines, Middlesex. Successful right from the start, one of his machines won the London-Edinburgh Trial in 1905. Seeing the public's increasing desire for automobiles, Gunn changed to four wheeled vehicles in 1907. Again an immediate success, one of his design won the London-St. Petersburg Trial in 1910.

Wilbur Gunn passed away in 1920. Sadly the financial dark clouds of the Great Depression and two world wars took their toll. After changing hands several times, David Brown eventually bought Gunn's company in 1947 and merged it into the Aston Martin empire. As for that river in Ohio...it is now gone as well, having been renamed Buck Creek. But when Wilbur Gunn was growing up near Springfield in 1875 it was known as Lagonda.

## Tech Article- Preparing for the driving season

by Jim Vickery

Over the years there has been a checklist developed of things you may want to check on your car before starting the driving season. I realize that it seems pretty extensive however do what you feel comfortable with and have someone else do the rest. Most of the list can be done using jack stands and a creeper. Quite a bit of this list is from various articles written by John Twist, some from my personal experiences and some from other club members experiences.

### Items to check under car:

- Tire-wear, pressure, age
- King pins for wear
- Tie rod ends for wear
- Fulcrum pin bushings for wear
- Steering boots for cracks
- Alignment
- Steering box oil
- Front Brake pads
- Calipers for leaks
- Rear brake shoes
- Brake cylinder for leaks
- Rear axle seals for leaks
- Rear brake adjustment
- Emergency brake cable
- Emergency brake adjustment
- Brake lines - metal
- Brake lines - rubber
- Clutch line - rubber
- Clutch slave cylinder for leaks
- Rear end oil level
- Transmission oil level
- Oil leaks - engine, trans, rear end

### Items to check under hood:

- Engine compression
- Engine timing
- Points (if fitted)
- Spark plug condition
- Lifter adjustment
- Lifter travel
- Oil level
- Clutch fluid level
- Clutch master cylinder for leaks
- Brake fluid level
- Brake master cylinder for leaks
- Coolant fluid level
- Radiator for signs of a leak
- Condition of hoses
- Condition of belts
- Carburetor adjustment

### Items to check inside car:

- Clean battery connections
- Note battery age

## BBB Regalia Korner



**Hat Pin - \$5**

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**Alphabroder:** [www.alphabroder.com](http://www.alphabroder.com)

**One Stop:** [www.onestopinc.com](http://www.onestopinc.com)

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1114 Rail Drive, Unit D  
 Woodstock, IL 60098

email: [Yves@vintagesportscar.net](mailto:Yves@vintagesportscar.net)

websites: [www.vintagesportscar.net](http://www.vintagesportscar.net) • [www.historicracecar.com](http://www.historicracecar.com)  
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**North American MGB Register**



Lynda Vickery, *Chronicles Editor*  
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Roscoe, IL 61073

Mailing Label Here



Next Meeting  
**Wednesday, April 16, 2014**

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**