



British Boots & Bonnetts Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

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June 9, 2014

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

President's Message

June 2014

Summer had finally arrived along with the heat and humidity. We waited a long time for this weather so let's enjoy it.

The BBB driving season is off to a good start. The *Drive and Dines* are attracting a nice group of members each month. A big thank you to those who have volunteered to be hosts. I see there are still 4 *Drive and Dine* dates needing hosts. Pick out your favorite dining spot, select one of the open dates and give Jim Vickery a call to get on the club calendar.

Our driving calendar is full of exciting driving events, both club sponsored and otherwise. Top down driving weather is here, so now is the time to drive those British cars. A large group of club members will be heading to Fresh Lick, IN this month to attend the NAMGB National Convention. The resort has undergone a major renovation and looking at the pictures it is a beautiful place. We wish the group safe travels and look forward to hearing their stories (there are always stories with car events) when they return.

It's not too soon to start thinking of the club's long weekend trip in September. All the details can be found in the April Chronicle. So make the necessary reservations now because before you know it September will be here.

So as one famous British car owner said to his driving mates, "Let's blow some air through those radiators."

Safety Fast.
Larry Eils

Words of Wisdom: *You can't steal second base and keep your foot on first.*



Next Meeting
Wednesday,
June 18, 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

MAY 21, 2014 BRITISH BOOTS AND BONNETS CAR CLUB MEETING

Presidents report: Larry Eils called the meeting to order with 36 members and one guest present at 7:10 PM. Rick Wagner introduced Jerry Mielke who has a 1953 MTD. Larry announced that this is the 18th birthday of the club. He and Marv Proctor had a picture taken of the cake that would be served later. He reported that the cake came from the Swedish bakery in Harvard. With the resignation of Doug and Fran Cameron, Larry reported that Richard Cannistra was appointed to the office of Vice President. Lew Moon was appointed as Secretary. They will serve for the term remaining.

Vice President: Reported that there was no report

Secretary: Ron Kuhnau made the motion to accept the report as printed in the Chronicle and Jim Vickery seconded, Motion carried.

Treasurer: Brian Kobischka reported the company where we have our P.O. Box is out of business so we will be getting a new Box. He also gave a financial report. It was moved to accept, seconded and passed.

Membership: Bev Joyce reported there are 72 paid members and one promised. The roster will be updated and sent out. Report additions and corrections to her.

Reglia: Jake Jaquet reported that the store is open. There are new hats and a light jacket available.

Chronicle/ Newsletter: Lynda Vickery reported there was nothing new that needed attention.

Webmaster: Hal Zenisek Web site is up and running, new pictures, one email. Check it out.

Sunshine: Phyllis Beneditz was not there, but Rita and Bob remain in our concerns.

Events: Jim Vickery: The Drive and Dine to O'Riley Irish Pub was led through western roads to Janesville by Cannistra's, who were filling in for Don and Marna Grosenick. 19 were reported to attend and sang happy birthday to our President, Larry. The tune up at Vickery's on Saturday the 17th had three cars using the lift and 16 people for the picnic. It was cool but sunny and great food. Don Huebschen attended the Beloit Pancake breakfast on the 17th; 40 classic cars, 250 people. Good car show. Larry reported on the B&B wine drive to DeKalb with 16 people, 8 cars visiting a 1879 mansion, a winery, and dinner at Sorrento Supper Club.

Upcoming Events: May 28 – 31 Jensen Nationals at Monroe Wi. May 31 Begins British car awareness week. June 7th Saturday drive is canceled. June 11th drive and dine hosted by the Lewis's will be to Orfordville, The Villa, for an all you can eat fish fry. Meet at Highlander at 5:45. Call Lewis's 815-985-9968. The 14-15 Black hawk Farms vintage races. June 15, the Sussex Wi. 33rd British Car Field Day; always a good show. The 21st is the Scottish highland Games and Car Show in Itasca, Illinois. June 15th to 19 is the MG 2014 Meet in French Lick, Indiana. Jim has packets of information about the show and the route. Meet Sunday morning at 7:00 am at Bauman park in Cherry Valley for a briefing on caravanning, etc. 2 cars will be going on a separate schedule. August 10th is the Botham Vineyards show. \$10.00 Pre Registration; a great day and a free bottle of wine. The money supports a charity. Retired Men Lunch will be on the 30th of this month, 1:00 at the Rock in Beloit, Wi. The Ladies who do lunch will meet at 12:30 at the Pearl. Friday the 24th.

Marques: **MG** Rich Hamaker – NAMGAR French Lick, In. **Triumph;** Jake, No report. **Jaguar;** Rich reported the New F type in show room with 550 HP. **Austin Healey;** No report. **Lotus;** No Report. **Rolls Royce;** Roger Buck, Annual meeting in July at Healfer Valley, Penn. **Mini:** Larry reported July 4th the East meets the West in Milwaukee with two interesting drives, one 50 miles in the country and 50 miles of Cheese factories.

Classified: Nothing for sale or trade.

Unfinished Business: Nothing

New Business: A few calendars remaining to give away free to anyone who wants one.

Good Wrench Award: Don nominated Rick and Roxann for taking over for them on the drive and dine. Jeff Plummer for finding a way to remove the oil filter from a Mini. Rick and Roxann won.

Bent Piston Award: Rick Wagner returned the award. No new nominations.

Raffle: Carol – Thunder Bay Bucks. Larry – Small Ceramic Flower pot. Dana Danbert – Safety LED Flasher. Jerry Mielke – Ice Car Wax.

Adjournment: Larry adjourned the meeting at 7:53 with a joke.

Respectfully submitted. Lewis Moon, Secretary.

BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS

2014 CALENDAR of EVENTS

- June 11 **BBB Drive and Dine** – The Villa; Orfordville, WI
Host: Del and Kathie Lewis
- 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** – TBD
Host: Connie Frazier and Hal Zenisek
- 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.

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WIRE AND WINE

Jay and Jackie Coffey, Larry and Marsha Eils; Co-hosts

The sun was shining and a beautiful May day unfolded as 16 club members gathered for our first drive of the year. Top down driving was in order. We headed south for a short drive through the countryside to arrive at the Isaac Ellwood Mansion.



In 1874 Ellwood invented barbwire and in five years became the wealthiest man in Illinois. In 1879 he built a 3 story brick home with indoor plumbing, running water and gas lights. Several years later they became the first home in DeKalb to have electric lights installed. Mr. Ellwood also owned 1,000 acres of land stretching from his home north to Sycamore. After our tour of this beautiful home, we drove through the farm land of Illinois to our next stop, the Aquaviva Winery.





Aquaviva is a unique winery using only grapes grown in Illinois to produce all of their wine selections. They had a nice selection of white and red wines to taste.

After tasting 6 wine selections we took a short drive in the warm sunshine to Sorrento's Supper Club.



The interior of Sorrento's was beautifully appointed. After sitting down we were presented with a large relish tray, an overflowing bread basket along with butter and a great tasting cheese spread. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal accompanied with great service.



Top down driving was still the order as we left the restaurant, except if you're in a Jeep (the Coffey's temporary British car).



A temperature of 72°F with the sun setting made for a beautiful drive home. A big thank you to Jay and Jackie for co-hosting their first BBB driving event.

MAY DRIVE FEATURES FARE FROM THE EMERALD ISLE

by Rich Cannistra

Cool weather did not chill the spirits of 19 diners who met at O'Riley and Conway's Irish Pub in Janesville WI on Wednesday, May 14th. Don and Marna Grosenick planned the event but were unable to attend so Rich and Roxann Cannistra filled in as hosts.

The evening started with a leisurely drive through the southern Wisconsin countryside. The group passed historic Beckman Mill as well as many picturesque farms along the way.

The pub proved to be very enjoyable providing first rate service with a cozy atmosphere. An extensive menu included a wide variety of Irish Pub Grub as well as traditional American choices.



On an especially festive note, club president Larry Eils celebrated his birthday that evening. Although ice cream did not turn out to be among the traditional Irish

offerings, you can see from the picture that Larry managed to find a suitable substitute to help celebrate his special day.

Thank you Don and Marna for picking an excellent location.





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

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

SPRING TUNE UP & PICNIC

by Jim and Lynda Vickery

The weather was a bit iffy the Saturday morning of the tune up and picnic, but the sun came out and, although the day was a bit chilly, it was a pretty nice day. Sixteen club members came at various times throughout the morning - some to work on their cars, and others to join in the camaraderie and enjoy the picnic.

The guys worked on three different cars during the morning, lubricating, and changing the oil. And the thermostat and coolant was changed out in one car.

Jim started the grill around noon, and Bill Maschke volunteered to cook the brats and hamburgers. Everyone brought a dish to pass, and there was plenty of food. There was time for some relaxation and conversation before people started heading out.

This was the perfect opportunity for us to clean out our garages and spruce up the yard. And our reward was being able to host this even and enjoy our BBB Friends!



BBB 18TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



It's hard to believe that British Boots and Bonnets Car Club is 18 years young! We have several original members along with many who have joined over the years.

It's certainly a Club made up of Driving Enthusiasts! Also eating enthusiasts! So what could have been more appropriate than an 18th Anniversary cake? And everyone enjoyed a piece after our May monthly meeting.



JUNE DRIVE AND DINE OFF TO WISCONSIN

by Kathie Lewis and Lynda Vickery

Hosts Del and Kathie Lewis have chosen The Villa in Orfordville, Wisconsin for our Wednesday, June 11th *Drive and Dine*. They have visited The Villa and found that they have an all-you-can-eat fish fry on Wednesdays. Cod, walleye, or shrimp are offered for a very reasonable price. This sounds like an evening not to be missed!

Plan on meeting at the Roscoe Schunks (the old Hilander) at 5:45 with a leave time of 6:00. Please call Del and Kathie rather than email. Their home phone is 815-399-8220 and Kathie's cell phone is 815-985-9968. This will help the restaurant better plan for us.

BLACKHAWK FARMS VINTAGE CLASSIC

Lynda Vickery

The 22nd annual Blackhawk Vintage Classic will be held at Blackhawk Farms over Father's Day weekend. Sanctioned by the Vintage Sports Car Drivers Association, over 120 cars from across the country are expected to converge at the raceway. Check out www.blackhawkfarms.com for more information.

BRITISH CAR FIELD DAY AT SUSSEX, WI.

by Lynda Vickery

Another great way to spend Father's Day is to take a leisurely drive up to Sussex, Wisconsin for the 33rd annual British Car Field Day. In the early years of our BBB Club, this was an event that was looked forward to, and our club was well

represented in the car show. There are no BBB organized plans, but if you are interested, it's a day well spent

Check out this website for details.
www.eventbrite.com/e/british-car-field-day-2014-registration-10642593283

MBG 2014 - FRENCH LICK, IND.

by Lynda Vickery

Eight cars are heading to French Lick, Indiana on June 15th for the annual MG convention. Watch for a report in the July Chronicle!

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES

by Lynda Vickery

By now you should have received information on the Scottish Highland Games sent by Jackie and Jay Coffey through an email from Bev. If you are interested in the Scottish way games are played, traditional entertainment and food, this event should be fun! Bring your LBC for the car show and get special parking!

The date is Saturday, June 21, getting there around 9:30. Location is Hamilton Lakes in Itasca, east of Rte. 53 and just north of Thorndale. Larry will also have more detailed instruction with him at the June club meeting. There is also a website: www.chicagoscots.org/highlandgames/

MINI MEET: EAST MEETS WEST

by Lynda Vickery

If you have any interest in seeing lots of Minis, drives in the countryside and Milwaukee, joining the group to watch the 4th Fireworks, and take in the car show, talk to Larry and Marsha Eils, who have their very own "Orange Pumpkin" and plan to attend. There is also a website: www.minimeet2014.com

CLUB ENTHUSIASM AND BRITISH SPIRIT SEEN AT A RECENT EVENT!



BBB 2014 LONG WEEKEND

by Rich Cannistra



The BBB long weekend will depart on Wednesday September 3rd for the upper peninsula of Michigan. As usual we plan to enjoy small roads, fantastic scenery, good food, interesting places and great friends. The complete itinerary can be found in the

April Chronicle, including all the necessary information to make reservations.

Make your plans now to join us, it's a trip that you won't want to miss!

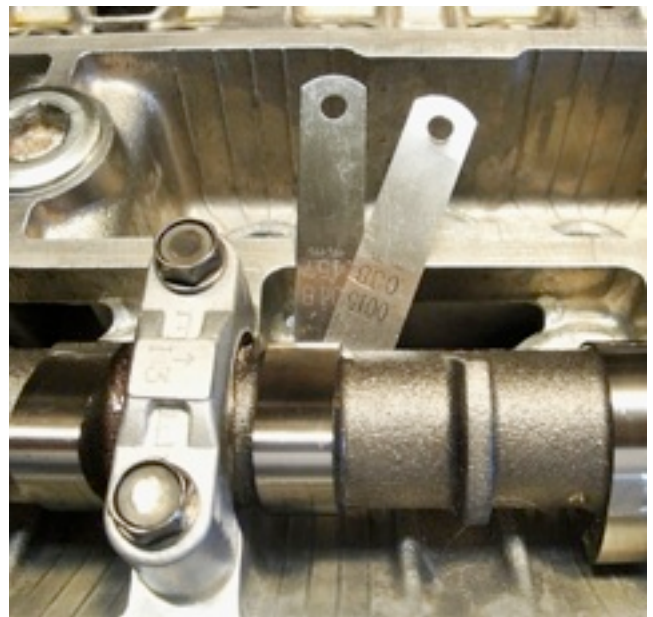
TECH TIP: FEELER GAUGES

from Marv Proctor

Compliments: *Grassroots Motorsport* magazine

"Most feeler gauge kits include a 0.0015-inch blade. Using it alongside another blade allows you to create half-sizes between each standard blade size."

"Example: You are measuring valve clearances and your feeler gauge is a loose fit on 0.019-inch, but 0.020-inch is a no-go. Double up the 0.018-inch gauge and the 0.0015-inch and you get 0.0195-inch."



TOOL TECH TIPS

Jim the Tool Man

Channel Locks: Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

Vise Grips: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

DID-U-KNOW
by Facia Nearside

William Morris (yes, of The Morris Garage fame) began building cars in 1912. Production of 400 cars in 1919 was increased to 56,000 cars in 1925. But Morris had bigger ambitions. Having seen the success of Henry Ford, Morris set out to bring mass production to Great Britain. He teamed up with Edward Budd of the U.S.A. who had developed a process to stamp out steel automobile bodies. In 1926 Morris and Budd formed The Pressed Steel Company of Great Britain.

Within a few years the two strong willed entrepreneurs came to loggerheads. Following a court battle, Morris lost control of Pressed Steel which allowed the company to supply other customers.

By the early 50s Pressed Steel had the largest press shops in Europe with plants at Oxford, Berkshire, Linwood, Swindon and Theale. Customers included Austin, Bentley, Daimler, Hillman, Humber, Jaguar, Lanchester, MG, Morris, Riley, Rolls-Royce, Rover, Singer, Vauxhall and Wolseley. Eventually coming under the British Leyland umbrella the company became Pressed Steel Fisher, the largest independent manufacturer of car bodies in the world.

And what about Pressed Steel today? When BMW acquired Rover in 1994 they inherited the plants at Swindon and Oxford. Body panels for the new Mini are stamped out at what is now called "Plant Swindon" and final assembly of the car takes place at "Plant Oxford".

MORE TOOL TECH TIPS

Jim the Tool Man

Phillips Screwdriver: Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Pozi-Drive screw heads.

Straight Screwdriver: A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms.

Lynda Vickery, *Chronicles Editor*
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Roscoe, IL 61073

Mailing Label Here



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