



British Boots & Bonnetts Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 19
Issue 7

July 7, 2014

Editor
Lynda Vickery

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

President's Message

July 2014

Date line: Sunday, June 30, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

As the heat of the afternoon gave way to a cool evening, Marsha and I both said "It's time to take the B for a ride." With the heat and rain we haven't been driving the B very much. As we headed for our favorite ice shoppe in Sharon Marsha said to me, "This is a wonderful evening for a top down ride." So after a brief pause for dessert we drove the back roads over to Lake Como and Geneva Lake to look at the lake homes, the beautiful landscaping and just enjoying a great evening. This is what owning a British car is all about.

With summer in full swing, I hope you have had, despite the rain and heat, time to drive your British car(s). If not, please look at the BBB Calendar of Events for the drives coming up and put them on your calendar. This will give you a chance to enjoy a nice ride through the countryside, sample some great food and spent time with your fellow club members.

Your Long Weekend Planning committee continues to work on this year's September journey. We'll be taking a ferry boat ride across Lake Michigan, driving across the Mackinac Bridge, have a chance to put your feet or hands in icy cold Lake Superior and a whole lot more. Read the article in this issue of the Chronicle to learn more and how to make reservations.

So let's blow some air through those radiators. Winter will be here before you know it.

Larry Eils

Words of Wisdom: Strangers are friends that you have yet to meet.

Next Meeting
**Wed.,
July 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**



JUNE 18, 2014 BRITISH BOOTS AND BONNETS CLUB MEETING

President's Report: Larry Eils called the meeting together at 7:08 with 25 members present. 16 of our club members are attending the MGB National in French Lick Indiana. There were no guests or new members. He reviewed the Raffle prizes.

Vice President's Report: With Richard in Indiana there was no report.

Secretary: Correction; the bakery in Harvard is Swiss not Swedish. Motion to approve as corrected by Archie and seconded by Hal. Carried.

Treasurer: Brian reported on Club finances. Marv motion to approve and Dave 2nd. Approved.

Membership: At the present time we have 74 paid members. New Roster has been sent.

Regalia: Jake reported the store is open on line.

Chronicle/ Newsletter: Lynda in Indiana

Webmaster: Hal reported 1,197 visits to web site. Busy month. Many new pictures on the site with at least ½ the membership with pictures. Urged all to visit the site.

Sunshine: Phyllis is with the group in Indiana. Bob Buckavekas reported that Bob Tilson remains the same and is limited in getting around. Bill Clark had a medical problem and is now doing well.

Events: Jim is in Indiana; Larry gave the report: The Lewis's lead the Drive and Dine to the Villa in Orfordville Wis. 19 attended. Ed attended the Black Hawk Farms event. Dave reported attending the 33rd annual event in Sussex, Wis. Lot of interesting cars. June 21 is the Scottish Highland Games at Itasca, Ill. Always a fun time. July 2-6 is the Mini Meet in Milwaukee. July 9 is the June Drive and Dine lead by Hal and Connie to Big Papa's, 8660 N. Second street in Machesney Park. Meet at 5:45 near Bergner's store for a short ride. Dinner at 6:30, Call 815-397-3653 or Email: hzenisek@tds.net. Let them know if you want a special Rib dinner. July 19 is the Saturday drive to Kickapoo Creek Winery – Edwards, Ill West of Peoria

Marques: MG - Rick in Indiana; Triumph - no report; Jaguar - Rich in Indiana; Austin Healey - Dwain reported July track day at Black Hawk Farms, August club Picnic in Chicago, Sept. Healy feast in Beloit; Lotus – no report; Rolls Royce – Roger reported about the Lake Michigan Region in July; Mini – Larry reported the show in Milwaukee July 4 where the east meets the west.

Unfinished Business: Some 2014 calendars available free to any one.

New Business: None Reported

Good Wrench Award: No Nominations

Burnt Piston Award: No Nomination. (they are all in Indiana)

Raffle: Larry – Shop towels, Brian – LED Flasher, Bev – Polish

Adjournment: Brenda made the motion, Dolores 2nd. Passed

Respectfully Submitted: Lewis Moon, secretary

BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS

2014 CALENDAR of EVENTS

- July 9 **BBB Drive and Dine** – Big Papa’s; Machesney Park, IL
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

THE VILLA IN ORFORDVILLE A GREAT DESTINATION

by Lynda Vickery



BBB members can't resist a good fish fry! And this one was on a Wednesday so fitted perfectly with our Wednesday *Drive and Dine* outings. Seventeen folks either met in Roscoe for a scenic drive to Orfordville, or met the group at The Villa, a fairly new restaurant located in Orfordville, Wisconsin.



Kathie and Del Lewis had done some scouting ahead of time, even dining at the Villa to be sure the food was up to our standards. And it surely was! Everyone enjoyed their meal, and because the fish fry was all-you-can-eat, several had second helpings. Our servers were attentive, and we were seated in a private room making conversations and visiting easy.

Thank you, Kathie and Del for hosting the June *Drive and Dine*! You did a great job, and we all enjoyed the drive, the food, and the company!



MGB 2014 - FRENCH LICK, INDIANA

by Lynda Vickery

It seemed like the MG drivers in our Club had been looking forward to and planning for the MGB 2014 gathering in French Lick, Indiana for months. But that was nothing compared to the planning done by the North American MGB Register and the two clubs who hosted this year's event. The Southern Indiana Region British Car Club and the Illinois Flat Land British Car Club certainly know how to present four days filled with all sorts of activities that British car owners enjoy. There was a large silent auction offering anything and everything a British car owner could need; craft and tech sessions, including the famous John Twist rolling tech session, special drives and dinners including a movie drive-in, self-guided driving tours, wine and historic tours.



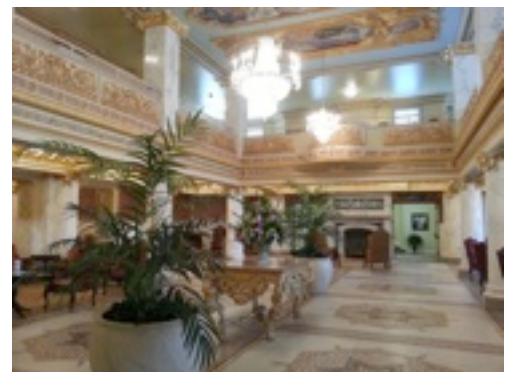
Everything culminated with the car show on Wednesday. Even the heat didn't deter owners from polishing and fine-tuning their cars for this show, and there were more than 280 entrants. The event closed with a banquet at the resort and presentation of awards. British Boots and Bonnets should be proud of their members, Ron & Nancy Kuhnau and Rich & Roxann Cannistra, for placing first in their classes! There were some fine cars presented, and it shows the caliber of cars our club members proudly own.



The Beneditzes and Vickerys tried their hand at a 5-winery self-guided tour which included a quiz of things noted along the way. Phyllis and Lynda won the quiz by answering 8 questions, all correctly, out of 21. They are dividing their gift basket spoils and enjoying everything from wine to glasses to sausage and crackers and a unique wooden box complete with British flag painted on the outside.



The French Lick Resort and surrounding area was an excellent choice! Located in Southern Indiana this resort is surrounded by the Hoosier National Forest which includes 8,800 acre Patoka Lake. The many rural roads winding through hills and valleys are great LBC driving roads. French Lick Resort and West Baden Resort were built around 1900 and enjoyed an excellent reputation as unique spa/golf resorts. Our group stayed at the French Lick Resort and all enjoyed the restored building from the exquisite lobby to each of our rooms. The West Baden



Springs Hotel was once known as the "Eighth Wonder of the World" because of its 6-story free-span dome. The tour there was wonderful - full of beauty and all things grand.

Six cars/couples (Ponds, Groseniks, Hamakers, Carters, Beneditzes, & Vickerys) drove main-roads-but-not-side-roads down from Rockford on Sunday, June 15th. The roads were in good shape, with not too many wrong turns taken or surprises like closed gas stations. Lunch was a little long, but it was Father's Day, and the Beef House in Covington, IN handled a very large group of people. It was a long day, but everyone was excited to finally arrive at French Lick, settle into our rooms, and attend the meet and greet reception.



Kuhnaus and Cannistras drove down Monday making better time by using the Interstates. On Thursday many struck out on their own to extend their vacation or visit family. And a few retraced their trip back to Rockford taking a few shortcuts without ending up in a cornfield somewhere.



You need not have an MG to attend this yearly event. Consider trying out MG2015 in Niagara Falls, Canada, or MG2016 in Louisville, Kentucky billed as a "Run for the Roses". You will have a great time!

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



BBB July 2014 Drive & Dine

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

July means summer.

Summer means prime top down driving season.

And summer means barbeque.

How about all three at rolled into one great event! Please join us for the July Drive and Dine, and be part of an evening of celebrating summer, driving, good food, and fellowship.

Details include:

- Meet at 5:45pm at Machesney Park Mall on Highway 251 – north side near the Bergner's store entrance. Drive departs at 6pm sharp.
- Short local car caravan style drive on scenic back country roads north & west of Rockford.
- Arrive for dinner at Big Papa's at 6:30.
- Menu specialties include baby back ribs, sandwiches, appetizers, desserts, bar and beverages.
- Friendly owners, cooks, and wait staff are looking forward to seeing our cars, filling our bellies and wetting our whistles!
- A BBB dinner special may be available based on enough interest! Let us know if you'd like a baby back rib special, and they will cook up a special rack just for us. Other choices are on the menu.
- Those not going on the drive have a very short trek over to the restaurant - just mention you are with the BBB when greeted.



Your Next Turns:

1. Save the date and make plans to participate.
2. **RSVP by 7-6-14** to Connie Frazier or Hal Zenisek – phone 815.397.3653 or email hzenisek@tds.net.
3. Also tell us if you'd like the rib dinner special.
4. Gas up your little British car and check the oil & tires.
5. [Check out Big Papas here](#) if you want to know more about the menu or destination.

We are looking forward to seeing you on July 9th!

Connie & Hal

NOTE: Big Papa's address is 8660 N. Second St., Machesney Park. IL

SATURDAY DRIVE PLANS IN PLACE

by Lynda Vickery

Saturday, July 19 should be reserved on your calendars for the BBB Saturday Drive to the Peoria area of Illinois! Larry and Marcia suggested the Kickapoo Creek Cafe and winery outside Edwards for lunch and a wine tasting, followed by visiting the nearby Wheels O'Time Museum in Dunlap. Dinner in Princeton at the Wise Guys Bar & Grill during the trip home has been arranged.

We will meet in the Dairy Queen parking lot at 1601 E. Sandy Hollow in Rockford (at the intersection of By-Pass 20 and Hwy 251) at 8:15 with an 8:30 leave time. The drive down will include scenic Route 2 to Sterling, and then Route 40 to the north side of Peoria. We will not be doing any city driving!

The Kickapoo Creek Cafe is pretty small, so it will help them if we can give an approximate number of people coming. They would like to have pre-orders if there are more than 12, but we are working with them to either come in 2 groups half an hour apart, or maybe some of us pre-order. Check out KickapooCreekWinery.com to see their menu. If we find a large number of people planning to drive down, I may contact some of you to ask about a pre-order.

The main attraction will be the Wheels O'Time Museum, an eclectic collection of autos, fire trucks, farm equipment, caterpillar machinery, clocks, musical devices, and much more inside 4 buildings. Their outside displays include a Rock Island steam locomotive, Milwaukee Road combine car, 2 private Pullman cars, a caboose and switch engine, as well as a working windmill. There will be exhibits to satisfy every interest!

The trip back will be Route 29, following the Illinois River north to Princeton where we have reservations at the Wise Guys Bar & Grill, located at the I80/Route 26 interchange. They offer a full range of food, from sandwiches to steaks, and advertise German Specials on Friday & Saturday. The outside is rather plain and nondescript (we almost missed it), but don't let that fool you! The inside is quite nice and the food excellent.

We plan to be in Princeton around 5:00 pm, and should be back in Rockford before dark. We hope that you can join us for a day full of fun driving and exploration of places that the Club hasn't been before. Please use our sign up sheet available at the club meeting on July 16th, call, or email us at jim.vickery@yahoo.com to let us know you planning to join us!

BBB WEBMASTER REPORT JULY 2014

Three items from your webmaster for the month:

- ◆ The much anticipated 'traffic' report for the first half of 2014 was shared with the club at the June meeting. For those who missed it, our Site Meter recorded 1,197 visitors over the past 12 months, or a monthly average of 100. On average, each visitor went to 3.3 pages during their visit and their time on the site lasted a 'whopping' 24 seconds. The website traffic trend appears stable; neither increasing or decreasing. Recent US visitors were from Illinois, Colorado, New York, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Indiana, Georgia, and Wisconsin. Recent international traffic came from Brazil, Italy, Mexico, and Taipei. Since the site launched in 2002, our total recorded traffic count is over 22,400.
- ◆ The webmaster received two emails this month, one regarding a local car show and two from a club board members with information to share.
- ◆ Recent work to the website included an updated Members Page for 2014 (we have 52% of the club membership pictured on the site); new pictures posted from recent events; updates completed to the calendar of events; and uploaded current and past newsletters.

If you haven't been out to the club's website recently, check it out at www.britishbootsandbonnets.com. Your traffic to the site is important to our presence on the Internet, and I welcome any suggestions you have for improvements.

Safe top down driving,
Hal Zenisek
BBB Webmaster

BBB MICHIGAN ADVENTURE 2014

by Rich Cannistra



It seems to me that the warm summer driving weather has just arrived. Yet a quick glance at the calendar will show you that our September 3rd departure for the club long weekend is just 8 weeks away. That means that it is time to throw your hat in the ring, get off dead center, and make plans to join your fellow club members on our sure-to-be-fantastic Michigan adventure! Let me briefly recap our itinerary then provide the details of how to join in on the fun.

We will depart on Wednesday, September 3rd for Manitowoc, Wisconsin where we board the S.S. Badger and sail across Lake Michigan. It's a short day of driving as we let the boat do the work, transporting us to Ludington, Michigan in time for a relaxing waterfront dinner.

- ▶ Day 2-we head north, driving along the beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline to Suttons Bay for a wine tasting and lunch. Petoskey, located on Little Traverse Bay, will be our destination with dinner plans at the Historic Perry Hotel Pub.
- ▶ Day 3-we continue north through the "Tunnel of Trees", planning an early arrival in Sault Ste. Marie. The afternoon will be free to explore the museums, shops or local sights. (If you plan to drive across the bridge into Canada, remember to bring your passport!)
- ▶ Day 4-we drive west along Lake Superior's Whitefish Bay (yes THAT Edmund Fitzgerald). We will visit many picturesque locations including the Point Iroquois Light Station and Manistique on the way across the Upper Peninsula to Menominee. Dining for this final evening will be at the world famous River's Edge Restaurant.
- ▶ Day 5-Departing for home on Sunday we plan a mid afternoon arrival, tempered by ice cream stops as necessary.

Now for the paperwork. Several people have said to Roxann and I "of course we are going" or "we wouldn't miss it". But that won't get you on the boat, and it certainly won't get you a hotel room. You **MUST** confirm your own reservation at each of the following venues. Group arrangements have been made for the Lake Michigan crossing (S.S. Badger) and the Soo Locks dinner cruise. There is a block of hotel rooms reserved for each night's stay as well. We have obtained the best possible rate at each location but it is always possible that an additional discount could be available, so ask. Please conclude by letting Roxann know that you will be joining us. That way we can plan adequately for the number in our group.

S.S. Badger September 3. 800-841-4243 Our group identification code is "BBB". Use this code when you call as it identifies our group which is receiving a 20% discount. Book the 2 p.m. departure from Manitowoc. 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 Rooms \$89

Day 3 September 5 Sault Ste. Marie, MI Askwith's Lockview Motel 800-854-0745 Rooms \$81 (Please note that this is a change from the hotel listed in the April Chronicle)

Day 4 September 6 Menominee, MI AmericInn Lodge and Suites 906-863-8699 Rooms \$90 Queen bed **Note: This hotel has two floors but no lift (elevator to you Americans) so reserve on the first floor if you don't want to walk up.

Soo Locks Dinner Cruise: price for the dinner AND the cruise will be about \$50 per person. All arrangements are being handled by Rich and Roxann and they will collect payment at a later date.

Finally, you are almost done. Call or e-mail Roxann to let her know that you are now one of the "in-crowd"!

The following six club members are committed to making this a great trip. Please contact any of us if you have additional questions. Thank you.

Rich & Roxann Cannistra

Larry & Marsha Eils

Jim & Lynda Vickery

DID-U-KNOW

by Facia Nearside

That a pretty blonde born in Hollywood, California has a British sports car named after her sounds a bit unusual. But then unusual is probably the perfect word to describe the life of Dorothy Deen. She was the 45th woman in the world to earn a helicopter pilot's license, but that's another story.

As a teenager Dorothy was a test driver for Whizzer Motor Bicycles. Next she started a mail order business selling gasoline powered model airplanes. Her real interest was in cars however, and at an early age she bought a new MG TD. Unable to find high quality accessories for her MG, Dorothy and her father, Arthur Anderson, teamed up to design and market their own line calling the company Cal Specialties. Through other business ventures Anderson became involved with the Swallow Coachbuilding Company that was preparing to build a new high end sports car based on Triumph TR2 running gear.

That new sports car debuted at the 1954 Motor Show and was called the most beautiful car on display. Indeed it derived it's name from Dorothy, but if you still don't get the connection you can be forgiven. Taking Dorothy's name and giving it an Italian sounding flair, Cal Specialties sold their line of auto accessories under the name Doretti. Swallow Coachbuilding liked that idea for their new marque as well. Dorothy sold them the rights to the name for one dollar, and in the process acquired North American distribution rights for the new car as well as the west coast distributorship of Triumph. That sharp new British 2 seater appeared in 1954 as the Swallow Doretti.

BBB Regalia Korner



Hat Pin - \$5

BBB Car Badge - \$45

BBB Logo embroidery - \$10
(\$5 each to BBB and Stitches & Things)

Marque Logos - \$7.50

Hats are in stock! (Always a popular item)

Ask about coffee cups, beer steins, & car flags that can
have our BBB logo applied.

Below is a list of apparel supplier web sites we
deal with.

S & S Activewear: www.ssactivewear.com

Tri Mountain: www.trimountain.com

Alphabroder: www.alphabroder.com

One Stop: www.onestopinc.com

MG MORGAN TRIUMPH



LOTUS JAGUAR AUSTIN HEALEY

AUTHORIZED AGENT

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North American MGB Register

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Roscoe, IL 61073

Mailing Label Here



Next Meeting
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(near East State Street and Bell School Road),

Dinner and social hour at 6:00pm.

Meeting begins at 7:00pm