

# British Boots & Bonnets Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 22 Issue 7

July 8, 2017

Editor Lynda Vickery

Website www.britishbootsand bonnets.com

Next Meeting Wednesday, July 19, 2017

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

**JULY 2017** 

Happy Birthday America, we hope you all had a safe and fun July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration; can't help but think of Rich and Dee Gibson with all the beautiful fireworks displays, our own area has a smorgasbord of offerings all the way from Sharon, WI, Beloit, WI and of course our own Rockford parade and show. Here's to living in the land of liberty and the freedom America provides to all of us, hopefully you got to drive your LBC to some of the events.

With half the year gone, I'm sure all of you are anxious to get out on the road; we have some very exciting events coming up this month; - July 8<sup>th</sup>, Day at The Lake at Rich & Dee Gibsons, and a Drive & Dine at The Stagecoach Inn in Fort Atkinson, WI, July 12<sup>th</sup> hosted by Steve and Polly Carter, hope to see you all there.

This is informing all members of The Board of Directors that we will have a short meeting after this month's meeting at Thunder Bay Grill. I will forward all suggestions submitted for the Board's review prior to the meeting.

Well here's the good news Sandi & I have been waiting on for almost two years, our LBC MGTF is finally in its' home paddock with proper title and "EA" registration complete. We were lucky to draw the plates "MGTF" from IDOT on the first pass. To say the least we are having loads of fun and are driving it on all good weather days. She's purring like a kitten with no leaks or sputters and we are getting lots of looks and waves. See you soon, here's to good LBC days ahead.

John



## MARQUE ADVERTISING SLOGAN OF THE MONTH:

1971 Jaguar V-12 born: The 12 Cylinder Animal

## JUNE 21, 2017 BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS CLUB MEETING

## President's Report - John Ward

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by John Ward BBB President. Thirty-four members were present. No new members or guests were present.

John welcomed Lew Moon back from Arizona. He is doing well.

John Ward reviewed the raffle prizes for the meeting.

## Vice President's Report - Brian Kobischka - No report

### Secretary's Report - Dee Gibson

A Motion was made by Lynda Vickery to accept the report as printed in the Chronicle. Seconded by Marv Proctor. Motion passed.

Dee Gibson thanked Roxann Cannistra for taking notes at the May meeting while she was in Georgia.

## Treasurer's Report - Lee Kindgren

Lee Kindgren submitted his report via email.

### <u>Membership - Bev Joyce</u> - No Report

## Chronicle/Newsletter - Lynda Vickery

Since we are emailing the newsletter to members now, only 6 copies of the newsletter need to be printed and mailed out.

Please keep the emails coming about news articles to include in the newsletter.

Lynda and Jim Vickery have a new email address: Jvickery.jv@gmail.com Please note the new email address.

There is a new shop in Rockton with a British couple owning it. They have a lot of British items for sale.

#### Webmaster - Hal Zenisek

An email from Dan Messon, RC Logistics was received regarding shipping cars all over the USA, in case you may be interested in shipping your vehicle to Florida or Arizona for the winter.

A most creative email was received from Elizabeth Davies who recently moved from the Rockford area and is selling their home. The home includes a 9-car garage and is listed at \$350,000. It is located on Tyson Road in Boone County. Please help spread the word. Contact realtor.com if interested.

Hal has been making some changes to our website to protect it so that people cannot place a virus or place phishing scams into the site. If anyone gets an error message while visiting our site lease let Hal know.

Sunshine - Phyllis Beneditz - No report

## Regalia - Jim Vickery

Jim displayed a copy of our club grill badge, selling at \$30. He also displayed a British Union Jack car flag for \$5.

## **Events - Bruce Beneditz (Report given by Larry Eils)**

June 24 the club will be off to Dubuque for a day drive, then on to a ferry ride across the Mississippi River. Meet at Schnucks in Roscoe at 8:30 a.m. and depart at 8:45. Lunch will be at "Catfish Charlie's". The car ferry is one of only 11 car ferries on the Mississippi River, and the only one in Wisconsin. It began operation in 1833.

The Paddlewheel Boat that the club had planned to enjoy in August has moved to Ohio. Larry Eils has located a yacht called the "American Lady" which also serves lunch on the Mississippi River. It has 2 decks, and one of them is protected from the weather. Contact Larry Eils (Host) or Don and Marna Grosenick (Co-Hosts) for reservations or more information.

July 8 - Day at the Lake, hosted by Rich & Dee Gibson, East Troy, Wisconsin (Rain Date July 9) Time: 1:00 - ???

June 30 - Track Night at Blackhawk Park. Spend 1/2 day on the track. Can get an instructor to ride with you for a few laps. A helmet is required and are available for rent. Long pants and seat belts are also required. This is a big thing the Austin Healy Club used to be involved in. No admission charge for viewing.

September 8-11 Long Weekend - Hannibal, Missouri

Hosted by Rich & Dee Gibson

Assistance with the long weekend planning is very welcome! Please let Rich or Dee Gibson know if you are interested in the event so that they can plan for restaurants, etc.

dynamiteboss@comcast.net or 54321kaboom@comcast.net

Ladies Who Do Lunch will meet at Granite City on June 23rd at 1:00.

**Classified** - None

**Unfinished Business**- None

**New Business** -

Orrie Nelson, one of the BBB Club founders, and his wife Jan Nelson have passed away (June 2017).

**Burnt Piston Award**- None

#### **Good Wrench Award**

Dee Gibson nominated Roxann Cannistra for taking the May Meeting minutes notes for her while she was in Georgia. Jim Vickery made a motion to accept the nomination. Rich Gibson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Raffle - Don Grosenick

- 1. 12-Volt Portable Inflators- Ed Nichols
- 2. Moisture Meter for Plants Larry Eils
- 3. 7-Function Digital Multimeter Mike Moore
- 4. 460-piece Nut, Washer, & Bolt Assortment Ken Polkowske
- 5. Gold trim Ballpoint Pen w/ Extra Refill Don Grosenick
- **6.** Flower Basket Solveig Maschke
- 7. Flower Basket Jenny Plymale
- 8. Flower Basket Lynda Vickery
- 9. Flower Basket Carol Eggleston
- 10. Thunder Bay Bucks Rich Gibson

## **Adjournment**

President, John Ward, told a story about Time being like a river.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Dee Gibson, Secretary

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

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# BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS 2017 CALENDAR of EVENTS

July 12 BBB Drive & Dine - Stagecoach Inn; Fort Atkinson, WI. Host: Steve & Polly Carter July 19 **BBB CLUB MEETING** Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL August 9 BBB Drive & Dine - TBD Hosts: John & Sandi Ward BBB Saturday Drive - Lunch on a River Boat & the Maritime August 13 Museum; Dubuque, IA Hosts: The Grosenicks & the Eils August 13 22nd Annual Vintage Celebration at Botham Vineyards, Barneveld, WI **BBB CLUB MEETING** August 16 Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL Poplar Grove Airport Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast August 20 Crossroads Blues Festival August 26 Sept 8-11 BBB Long Weekend to Hannibal, MO (Tentative date) Hosts: Rich & Dee Gibson Sept 13 BBB Drive & Dine - TBD Host: TBD **BBB CLUB MEETING** Sept 20 Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL Sept 22-24 Fall Jefferson Car Show & Swap Meet BBB Alpaca Farms & Boots Around the Campfire Oct 7 Hosts: The Bartletts & the Eils BBB Drive & Dine - TBD Oct 11 Host: TBD Oct 18 **BBB CLUB MEETING** Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL Nov 8 BBB Dine - TBD Host: TBD Nov 15 **BBB CLUB MEETING** Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL **BBB Cookie Exchange Party** Dec?? Dec 13 **BBB Christmas Party** 

A Question from Bil Maschke:

What was the first car company to offer a power operated convertible top in 1934?

Peugeot!

# THE WARDS ARE ON THE ROAD IN THEIR CLASSIC BRITISH CAR!

After two years of renovation of the Ward's TF by the fellows at the British Car Shop, their MGTF was complete, beautiful, and ready to drive. However, a lost title created another issue in dealing with the Secretary of State's Office. They finally have their title in hand and proudly display their brand new license plate.





## **BBB EVENTS - JULY 2017**

Phyllis and I have been struggling with building an addition on our house this spring. To say the least, the weather has been uncooperative. It has me second guessing our construction plans. Maybe we should have built an ark. The weather seems to have finally calmed down some and I have been able to drive the MGs lately. Hopefully that good weather will continue for our July activities.

June did provide a few breaks where the LBCs could come out and play. Here are a couple of examples.

June 14 - Drive and Dine that was hosted by Rich and Roxann Cannistra to The Anchor Inn, in Edgerton, WI. I was in Canada fishing and missed this event but Phyllis did go and said it was a wonderful time. She did take me back here for dinner on our drive back from up north a few weeks back and we had a very good meal.

June 24 - The Saturday Drive was to Dubuque via backroads and north along the Mississippi to board the Cassville Ferry for a ride across the River. It was hosted by Larry and Marsha Eils. Unfortunately, I also was unable to attend this event but the reports I heard was it was a very good time. Even managed to schedule dinner during a rain shower. Thanks Larry and Marsha for stepping in at the last moment to put this drive together.

These events are coming up in the near future.

- July 8 Day at the Lake hosted by Rich & Dee Gibson
- July 12 Drive and Dine to the Stagecoach Inn in Fort Atkinson. Hosted by Steve and Polly Carter.
- July 28 Ladies Who do Lunch and the Retired British Touring Group Lunches
- August 13 Saturday Sunday Drive to the Mississippi River for lunch on a River Boat and a visit to the Maritime Museum in Dubuque. Hosted by Grosenick's and Eils'.
- August 26 the Crossroads Blues Festival

Check out the calendar to see all the events that are planned for the year. Summer is here. Take every chance you have to drive your LBC while the weather is good.

Safety Fast, Bruce Beneditz

## **JULY DRIVE AND DINE**

Hosts: Steve and Polly Carter

We're headed to the Stagecoach Inn in Fort Atkinson, WI, for the July Drive and Dine.

The Stagecoach Inn is a well-known Wisconsin Supper Club.

We will meet at Roscoe Middle School, 6121 Elevator Road, Roscoe, IL, at 5 p.m. for a 5:15 p.m. departure. Please RSVP by July 11<sup>th</sup> to Polly at <u>pjcarter347@gmail.com</u> or call 815-980-1647 to let us know if you'll be joining us.

If you are planning to meet us at the restaurant, please confirm with Polly to facilitate an accurate guest count. The restaurant is located at 11946 N. State Road 26, Fort Atkinson, WI. Reservations are for 6:30 p.m.

## LUNCH AND A CRUISE IN AUGUST: SET SAIL WITH US FOR A RIDE ON THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI!

Hosts: The Grosenicks and the Eils

Our August drive has been changed to Sunday, August 13, 2017. We have made arrangements to take a 2 hour lunch cruise on Dubuque's "American Lady" on the Mississippi River leaving from Dubuque, IA. A number of club members experienced a fun ride on the "Pride of Cassville" car ferry in June, with a 17 minute crossing of the Mississippi River on an open car ferry. How about a totally different boat ride on the Mississippi? The American Lady is a beautiful 82 foot yacht that can carry 120 people. The yacht is well equipped to protect it's passengers in case of in-climate weather.

Our menu is a buffet lunch of Broasted Chicken and beef with mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, rolls and butter with unlimited soda, lemonade and ice tea. The cost is \$24.95 plus tax per person.

To reserve your spot please call the American Lady office at 563-557-9700 by Friday, July 21, 2017. Please tell Diane you are with the British, Boots and Bonnets Car Club. Once you have made your reservation please call Marna Grosenick at 608-752-7092 so she knows how many club members are coming.

Drive plans are being finalized now and will be discussed at the July club meeting. However, should you have any questions now about this event please call, text or email Larry Eils. The Grosenicks and Eils look forward to having lunch with you as we cruise down the Mississippi River.



## BBB to attend 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Crossroads Blues Society Festival!



On Saturday, August 26th, Bev and Brian will again lead a caravan from Kegels Harley-Davidson dealership (7125 Harrison Ave – Rockford) to Lyran Park. We'll gather at 11:15 am and depart at 11:30. For those unable to join the caravan, feel free to meet us at the park – 4781 S. Bend Road. Use of MapQuest is not recommended as it is apparently wrong. Use another provider such as Google Maps.

The live music starts at noon and will go through 9:30 pm. Performers will be on stage right along the Kishwaukee River, or in the Pavilion. The seating area slopes at an incline from the main stage so the view of the stage is quite good.

Please bring lawn chairs and there will be plenty of space to park them in either sun or shade. If you can't attend all day, you can come and go as your schedule permits. Food and drink will be provided by a several festival vendors. If there are any aspiring harmonica players, there will be a workshop at 3:30, as well as a guitar workshop at 5:30. Tickets at the door are \$10 per person. We will have advance tickets for anyone that would like to reserve them for \$5 per person.

If you would like to caravan with us, please let Bev or Brian know, so we will know to expect you at Kegels (Bev at <a href="mailto:andsewon53@comcast.net">andsewon53@comcast.net</a>) (Brian at <a href="mailto:Brian.Kobi@yahoo.com">Brian.Kobi@yahoo.com</a>).

## The Line-up of musicians

Noon Ivy Ford Band

- 1:30 Brutal Wedgie Youth Band in the Pavilion
- 2:00 Corey Dennison Band
- 3:30 Joe Filisko Harmonica Workshop in the Pavilion
- 4:00 The Jimmys
- 5:30 Paul Kaye Guitar Workshop in the Pavilion
- 6:00 The Kinsey Report
- 7:30 Dan Phelps with Hardtimes Cigar Box Guitars in the Pavilion
- 8:00 Doug Deming and the Jewel Tones

## Welcome New Members!

New membership applications are available on the club's website.

Register by sending your completed application to:

Lee Kindgren, Treasurer
British Boots and Bonnets Car Club
PMB 254
1643 North Alpine Rd. Suite 104
Rockford, IL 61107
leekrkfd@aol.com

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

Seeing this photo brings back fond memories of Ed Eggleston and Bob Tilson. British Boots and Bonnets has had many wonderful members over the years who contributed their time, talents, and heart to whatever the Club needed to be successful. We miss you guys!



## JUNE DRIVE ON COUNTRY ROADS AND DINNER BESIDE THE ROCK RIVER

by Rich & Roxann Cannistra

The June Drive and Dine was at The Anchor Inn in Newville, WI. Hosts Roxann & Rich Cannistra led a group of diners through the back roads of rural Wisconsin to the restaurant on the Rock River. Despite a threatening forecast, weather remained pleasant throughout the evening.

The extensive food and beverage menus provided many options, and everyone seemed to find an agreeable selection. Service was good and the view of the river as the sun went down provided a beautiful backdrop for the evening. Special congrats go to Chris and Greg Oakes for making sure one LBC was in the mix.





## ADVENTURE ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER - BBB JUNE DRIVE

By Larry and Marsha Eils

Blue skies with scattered white clouds and a temperature of 66° F greeted the 4 couples and their British cars as they joined us in the Schnuck's parking lot for our drive. We did have a special guest with us during the drive; Sadie, the Moore's miniature Terrier, came along for the ride.

It was a beautiful day for a top down drive as we headed to our first stop at Casey's in Lena for coffee refills. Our path took us on the Stage Coach Trail leading to Galena but half way there we diverted into the hilly and rolling countryside north of Galena which allowed us to miss Galena. We headed into Dubuque for our first glimpse of the Mississippi River from the 2 lane bridge going over the river. We were joined in lowa by the Schleicher's, our club members who live in Galena.













After lunching at Catfish Charlie's, which overlooked the Dubuque harbor, we headed north and turned onto the Iowa Great River Road which wound up and down the valleys and over the hills occasionally giving us a glimpse of the Mississippi River. We made a brief pit stop at the Promise Land Winery which just happened to be located next to the road leading to the car ferry.

















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The mile drive to the car ferry was slow. We were driving on hard pan with some loose gravel. The road floods in the spring make maintenance difficult. When we arrived at the ferry landing we met two guys driving a 1977 blue MGB waiting for the ferry. They didn't own the car but asked their friend if they could borrow it and go for a ride.

As we waited for the Pride of Cassville car ferry to approach we saw a Bald Eagle circling over the river. It was a very busy day for the car ferry. Not only did the car ferry crew of two load our 6 cars, they also loaded 4 motorcycles and 5 other cars for a full load. The crossing took only 17 minutes. It was a little windy on the ferry but still a nice day for a boat ride.

The Cassville ferry started service in 1833 with a flat, wooden boat and oars. Later two horses on a treadmill propelled the ferry until gas engines replaced the animals around 1912. Cassville was without ferry service for 40 years, until 1982 and now the village owns and operates the ferry from May through October. Hours depend on the time of year and the river level.





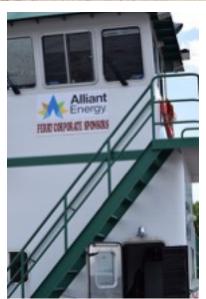
















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After a short ride on the Wisconsin Great River Road we stopped at Potosi for a pit stop and, of course, for some ice cream. As we began our drive through the countryside we noticed the sky was getting very dark in the west and seemed to be heading in our direction. Every now and then a few rain drops could be felt but we continued our drive. However, the storm was gaining on us so when we reached Warren we were able to safely pull over and put our tops up. Perfect timing because by the time we left Warren it poured and rained all the way to Lena.









Dinner was at Mulligan's in Lena. This was a new place that just opened in one of the old buildings in town. The food was great and the service was outstanding. Wouldn't you know it, it stopped raining during dinner and we were able to drive home, tops up but without using our wipers. Another fun day driving our Little British Cars.







Thank you Larry & Marsha for a well thought out route, great places to eat, and scenery that can't be beat! It was a wonderful day. Lynda & Jim Vickery

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR OUR CLUB

The following article by Ken Kyle appeared in the October 2016 issue of The Terminal Post, the newsletter of The Positive Earth Drivers Club of central New Jersey. When the article was reprinted in the April edition of British Marque Car Club News Larry Eils and I saw it and realized it could be very important safety information for many of us with LBCs who ...had no idea!! With the generous consideration of Mr Kyle here is his fine article in it's entirety. Rich Cannistra

## Confused About Fuses? Ken Kyle

For years I've heard people say that British (Lucas) and American fuses (the tubular glass ones used through about 1981) are not interchangeable. This has always struck me as odd. Lucas and American fuses are the same diameter, 1/4 inch, and almost the same length (1-5/32 inches for Lucas, 1-1/4 inches for American AGC-type fuses) so they are in fact physically interchangeable. And amps are amps, right? Well...yes and no. It's true that the ampere is the international unit of electrical current, so an amp in Coventry is the same as an

amp in Detroit. However, it's the way the fuses are rated that makes them different. British fuse ratings indicate the amperage at which the fuse will <u>immediately blow</u>. So if your LBC owner's manual says to use a 35-amp fuse in a given circuit, that means the manufacturer wanted you to use a fuse that will blow pretty much instantly as soon as it sees a current flow of 35 amps or more in order to protect your car's wiring from damage. American fuses, on the other hand, are rated to indicate the maximum current flow they can withstand without blowing for a specified period of time, usually 60 minutes. As a general rule of thumb, it takes about twice the rated amperage of an American fuse to make it blow instantaneously, so a 35-amp American fuse would be roughly equivalent to a 70-amp Lucas fuse, if they made them that large (which they don't).

Now consider what could happen if you replaced a 35-amp Lucas fuse in your LBC with a 35-amp American one. Say your car experiences a short or an overload of some kind in the affected circuit, and the current flow shoots up to 50 or 60 amps. That sturdy American fuse will hang in there for a time while your wiring harness goes \*poof!\* and the smoke escapes from it. I'm sure I'm not the first person to think of it, but this scenario could explain at least some of the escaping-smoke incidents we've all witnessed or heard about in LBCs.

So can you use American fuses in your LBC, or do you have to chase down the proper British ones? The answer is yes, you can use American fuses if you carefully follow a couple of important guidelines:

- First and foremost, make sure the American fuse you select has a current rating of no more than half that of the specified British fuse you are replacing. For example, if your manual says to use a 35-amp Lucas fuse, substitute an American fuse rated at no more than 17 amps.
- Second, use an SFE-type fuse if possible. SFE fuses are faster acting than similar-looking AGC-type fuses so they provide a bit more protection. The only problem with using SFE fuses is that their length varies with their amperage rating (which was done purposely to prevent the wrong fuses from being installed in American fuse boxes), so most sizes will be too long or short for your Lucas fuse box as all Lucas fuses are the same length regardless of amperage rating. In those cases you can use AGC-type fuses of the appropriate amperage rating, since all AGC fuses are the same length. AGC fuses are also fast acting, just not as fast as the SFE type, and come in 32-volt and 250-volt ratings, either of which is suitable.



# BBB REGALIA ONLINE JULY 2017

Regalia club merchandise is available by contacting Jim Vickery. This includes:

BBB Grill Badge - \$30

BBB Hat/Lapel Pin - \$1

BBB Logo Wall Clock - \$15

one BBB ball cap & one visor - \$10

British flags for cars - \$5

All other regalia can be purchased online via our BBB Regalia Page found on our Club's website.

You buy online, securely pay with your credit card, and select one of the following delivery options:

Shipped directly to you (additional fee)

Pick up at EmbroidThis (no charge)

Pick up at Club Meeting (no charge)\*

\*I will be happy to stop by EmbroidThis and pick up your order. It is right on the way to our meeting location. Just let me know!

Jim Vickery



Here are samples of BBB regalia that can be found on the Club's website, BBB Regalia Page. There is a nice selection of clothing - and driving season has finally started! Check it out and contact me with any questions.

Jim Vickery



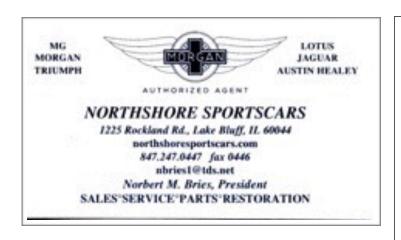








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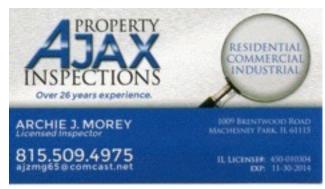
## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$30 (\$45 overseas)

- Dash plaque
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  - Annual national convention a four-day MG party!

## North American MGB Register

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Roscoe, IL 61073



Next Meeting Wednesday, July 19, 2017

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