



British Boots & Bonnets Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 20
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July 1, 2015

Editor
Lynda Vickery

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

President's Message

July 2015

Grandchildren are a lot of work. How else can you explain the fact that I spent the last two days upside down and sideways under the dash of my car? Not my British car but my daily driver, a 1981 Volvo with 221,000 miles. This is sort of like the story of the cobbler's kids who have holes in their shoes...well, sort of like it.

My time and interest lately has been with the British Iron which gets driven a little and babied a lot. Meanwhile the Volvo just soldiers on. The fact that the bearings on the fan motor have been running dry and screaming in protest for several years is only a minor inconvenience to me. Heck, I hardly use the fan anyway! But when Roxann rides in my car you can imagine the conversation that I'm subjected to as my fan sings, chirps and whines (no pun intended, Princess). The problem is that this is one of those jobs that you NEVER want to do. In the repair manual it's only 10 easy steps to get at the thing. Step 1: Remove everything between the front seats and the windshield...everything! This motor is buried so deep that it takes high tech gear capable of searching for the Titanic to even look that far down. I have a picture of the Volvo assembly line in my mind. At the beginning, an empty platform upon which the car will be built starts moving along. The first component put on it is the fan motor, then every other piece of the car is fastened all around it.

Have I mentioned yet that I really didn't want to do this job? When I took the new part out of the box the receipt was dated September 2008. Not that I've been procrastinating, just busy with other stuff.

What changed? Our daughter and her family are going to be visiting from out of town, coming to see the new baby. The three grandkids ganged up on me, something about needing to ride in air conditioned comfort. I didn't have an air conditioned car until I was 35 years old. That fact got me just about as far as the "ten miles to school, up hill both ways, in three feet of snow" statement. So there I was under the dash of my car contorted into incredible positions that cause great discomfort. Maybe I should have replaced that motor seven years ago when I was a little younger!

Happy 4th of July,
Rich

Next Meeting
Wed.,
July 15, 2015

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

Dinner and social hour
at 6:00pm

Meeting begins at 7:00pm

MARQUE ADVERTISING SLOGAN OF THE MONTH:

*"A car that's put together by hands,
for the price of a car that's put together
by machines."*

- 1972 TVR Vixen

Boots and Bonnets Club Meeting -June 17, 2015

Presidents report – Rich Cannistra

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Rich Cannistra. There were 36 members present.

There were two guests present:

- Char Thompson, who comes from Washington State / Alaska. She owns a 1978 MG Midget.
- Zachary Robbins, grandson of Don & Marna Grosenick

Vice President's report – Larry Eils

The June issue of the Marque News contains an ad about our club on page # 2. Thank you to Lynda Vickery for submitting this information to them.

Secretary – Marna Grosenick

Ron Kuhnau moved to accept the secretary's report as printed in the Chronicle.
Lee Kindgren seconded – motion passed.

Treasurer – Brian Kobischka

Brian was not at our last meeting, and just returned from vacation. He reported on the balance in our account, as of May 20th.

Membership: Bev Joyce

Our membership numbers have not changed from last month. We have 75 paid memberships.

Regalia: Bruce Beneditz

The company we are now going through, Embroider This, is looking for suggestions for items we would like to have. Also, there are still some items left over from Jake & Donna. If you are interested in any of these, please let Bruce know.

Chronicle/Newsletter: Lynda Vickery

Lynda would like to get the Chronicle published a little earlier this month. If you have any articles or pictures to be included in this edition, please send them to her as soon as possible.

Webmaster: Hal Zenisek

- Hal received a notice for the European Auto Show, in Long Grove, IL on Sat, Sept. 19.
- Our website is current and up-to-date. It contains the current Chronicle, as well as past editions.
- Progress is being made on the new website.

Sunshine- Phyllis Beneditz

Nancy Kuhnau has injured her foot. Feel better soon, Nancy!

Past Events: Jim Vickery

Ron Kuhnau gave an update on the trip to Niagara Falls, Canada for the MG 2015 event. Highlights of the trip included:

- The fast ferry trip across Lake Michigan
- The Gilmore Museum in Richmond, MI
- The Henry Ford Museum, Factory, and Greenfield Village in Dearborn, MI
- Niagara Falls, and the MG 2015
- The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH
- The Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, IN

The Drive & Dine, hosted by Rich & Jackie Bartlett at Crandalls Restaurant, was attended by 31 people.

Future Events: Jim Vickery

June 26th “Old Farts” and “Ladies who do Lunch” are both TO BE ANNOUNCED. Watch your e-mail for further information on both.

July 8th. Will be a **Dine Only** this month. It is being hosted by Jim & Lynda Vickery. They ask that we meet at the Der Rathskeller in Rockford for dinner. We will be on the terrace, if weather permits.

Sept. 25-28 Rick Hamaker announced that there are still rooms available at our host hotel, but they are filling up fast. So if you would like to come on the trip to Eagle River, please make your reservations as soon as possible, then let Rick know that you are coming. Please see the Future events section of this Chronicle for additional events.

MARQUES:

- MG** – Rick Hamaker - UM Summer Party – Aug. 7-9, Grand Rapids, MI
- Healey , Lotus, Rolls Royce, Triumph, Jaguar, Morgan** - No report
- Mini** – Larry Eils – Aug. 1st - “Mini on the Map” event. – they will be trying to host the longest parade of Minis record – They need to beat 1,451 cars that participated in England. The parade will take place over the Mackinac Bridge in Michigan.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – None

Classified –

Donna Jaquet has two “Stags” and some car parts for sale.

Good Wrench Award –

Nominations were:

- Lyn Pond and Ron Kuhnau for getting Mike and Brenda Moore’s car fixed.
- Lyn Pond and Ron Kuhnau for helping Char Thompson, sight unseen, with her car problems.
- Doug & Fran Cameron (through Rick Hamaker) nominated Lyn Pond and Ron Kuhnau for numerous phone calls and advice concerning issues with their Jaguar coup.

The vote was unanimous. Because Lyn was not present at the meeting, Ron received five raffle tickets.

Burnt Piston Award – None

Raffle: Don Grosenick

1. LED Magnetic Light – Rick Hamaker
2. Garage Sign – Marv Proctor
3. Gojo hand cleaner - Roger Buck
4. Island Coconut Candle – Char Thompson
5. Beverage Dispenser – Brian Kobischka
6. Thunder Bay Bucks – Brenda Moore

Adjournment at: 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Marna Grosenick, Secretary

- Sept 16 **BBB CLUB MEETING**
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- Sept 17-20 VSCDA Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival
Road America; Plymouth, WI
- Sept 25-27 Fall Jefferson Car Show and Swap Meet
Jefferson, WI
- Sept 25-28 **BBB Northwoods Long Weekend**; Eagle River, WI
Hosts: Mary Jo Schoening, Rick & Sandy Hamaker
- October 9 **BBB Fall Drive** *DATE CHANGE!*
Hosts: Larry & Marsha Eils
- October 14 **BBB Dine** -Bigfoot Inn; Harvard, IL
Host: JoAnne Fleshman
- October 21 **BBB CLUB MEETING**
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL
- November 11 **BBB Dine** -Location needed
Host: Volunteer needed
- November 18 **BBB CLUB MEETING**
Thunder Bay Restaurant
- December 2 **BBB Cookie Exchange**
Host: Mary Jo Schoening
- December 16 **BBB Christmas Party**
Host: Bev Joyce



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

JUNE DRIVE AND DINE = AN OLD FAVORITE!

by Lynda Vickery

The *June Drive and Dine*, hosted by the Bartlett's, started with a pleasant drive through the countryside and ended with great dinners at Crandall's Restaurant. Several of us didn't drive our favorite LBC, but that didn't stop us from enjoying the caravan. Spring has definitely, finally, arrived!



Jackie and Rich Bartlett made arrangements with Crandall's to use their middle dining room, which meant we had the room to ourselves, and all 31 of us could easily visit with one another. Crandall's has a weekly broasted chicken special which most of us ordered, and all enjoyed. Over the



years the club has found this to be a consistently great place to eat, and we were not disappointed this time either.

Thank you Jackie and Rich, for your efforts in putting together the June *Drive and Dine*. I know you put some thought and time into it, and it was certainly worth it!



NIAGARA FALLS TRIP

by Rich Cannistra

June 4th the Kuhnaus, Grosenicks and Cannistras launched off on an eleven day adventure centered around NAMBGR 2015 at Niagara Falls in Ontario, Canada. What follows is a brief synopsis of the fantastic trip that we enjoyed.



We began the journey by taking the high speed ferry across Lake Michigan. The Lake Express transports 40 cars from Milwaukee to Muskegon, Michigan in 2-1/2 hours. The crossing is less relaxed than the Badger but enjoyable all the same.



Once in Michigan it was about a 90 minute drive to our hotel near Hickory Corners. The second day was dedicated to the Gilmore Car Museum. The buildings, the grounds and the cars are all beautiful. A wide variety of automobiles and the history to go with them had something for everyone. As we were preparing to leave the museum, Packards started showing up from all directions. They were the featured marque for the show that weekend at Gilmore.



The original Little Deuce Coupe from the Beach Boys album on display at the Gilmore Museum.

Saturday morning we moved on to the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn. There was a lot to see and with only 1-1/2 days to cover it we were plenty busy. A highlight for the guys was touring the Ford Rouge F-150 plant while the gals enjoyed the Henry Ford Greenfield Village. Henry Ford had a broad vision. The ingenious inventor was so enamored with ingenuity that he began collecting innovations he felt represented the resourcefulness of everyday Americans. One of the wealthiest men in the world, Ford collected not art, but things. At one time, he attempted to acquire one of everything ever made in the United States. This museum is testament to the fact that he came close.



Monday morning we crossed into Canada and proceeded across southern Ontario to the Niagara Falls area. The hotel was in a relatively busy location but that gave many choices of restaurants and shopping. It was also only a short drive to view the falls. Tuesday was taken up with tech sessions and touring the local area. The nearby town of Niagara-On-The-Lake was beautiful, quaint and historical. An especially amazing location there was the Prince of Wales Hotel built in 1864. Nancy and Marna enjoyed traditional afternoon tea in this beautiful setting later in the week. The surrounding area is loaded with wineries, they must number into the hundreds. I believe we all felt it our duty to sample a wide variety of the local offerings.



Wednesday was the car show, which started with a drive that ended up at the show site, a large park called Balls Falls, out in the country. The threat of rain came true, but two brief showers did little to dampen the spirits of the participants. Beautiful weather followed allowing an enjoyable top down drive...to some more wineries, of course.





We ended the day with the amazing experience of watching an ocean going freighter "climb the mountain" on the Welland canal. Thursday was once again time for touring the local area capped off by the banquet in the evening. A dinner theater type location was the venue, and the evening started off with a magic show. None of us dreamed that there were so many ways to make a lady disappear. The awards presentation was especially exciting for Ron and Nancy Kuhnau as their green MGB was awarded first in class. Congratulations Ron and Nancy!



Friday morning we hit the road early, crossing back into the United States at Buffalo, NY and proceeding on to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland. This museum of sounds, clothes, records and history is more than a person can see in one day. We stayed until closing time and then took the van driver's advice, going to the Chop House in downtown Cleveland for dinner. It was noteworthy that after eating out the previous eight evenings, we all opted for prime rib this time. It turned out to be a good choice as everyone thought that it was the best that they ever had.

Saturday morning we were off to Auburn, Indiana for the last stop on our round robin tour, the Auburn, Cord, Duesenberg Automobile Museum. What started out in 1900 as the Auburn Automobile Factory and its art deco showroom has been turned into a world class museum to showcase the three marques. The grandeur of this place and its vehicles is simply amazing! Those of us with BBB tendencies did notice however, that two Jaguars snuck into the mix, even if it was in a small side room.



Sunday morning it was time to say our goodbyes as two MGBs headed for home and the Cannistras turned around and spent some time in Ohio visiting relatives. The tour plan had been a good one with interesting stops only a couple of hundred miles apart all along the way. Round trip was about 1500 miles with no mechanical issues of any type. Going to and from Canada was a breeze and best of all...the company was superb!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO RON AND NANCY KUHNAU FOR WINNING
FIRST IN CLASS AT MG 2015 NIAGARA FALLS, CANADA!!!**



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

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For Collector Car Appreciation Day, we're cruising in our classics to drive-in theaters across the country.

In Chicago, *Hagerty Classic Cars* magazine is taking over the Cascade Drive-In and opening it up to classic cars only, for free.

So load up the kids, grandkids and friends, and cruise on in for popcorn, fun and a shared screen. Families must RSVP to be admitted. Help us bring back family night at the drive-in!

We encourage you to dress based on the year of your classic. Prizes awarded to families who dress the best and drive the furthest.

Featuring: Minions

Friday, July 10, 2015

Cascade Drive-In

1100 E. North Avenue, West Chicago, IL 60185

Gates open at 6:30 pm. Movie begins at sundown.

Hosted by *Hagerty Classic Cars* magazine.



[<news@news.hagerty.com>](mailto:news@news.hagerty.com)

der RATHSKELLER SITE FOR JULY DINE!

by Jim and Lynda Vickery

The Vickery's will host a "Dine" only on July 8th. We will meet at der Rathskeller, 1132 Auburn St, in Rockford at 6:30pm. If weather permits, we will eat in their Bier Garten, and enjoy their German style foods.

Please call 815-623-5611 to let us know you are planning to attend so that we can give der Rathskeller an idea of how many BBER's to expect. Prost!

ICE CREAM UPDATE!

by Larry Eils

Did you know that July 19, 2015 is National Ice Cream Day? On this Sunday all BBB members should take their LBC for a ride to their favorite ice cream shoppe and celebrate.



With that in mind, here is another interesting fact all ice cream lovers should know - the ice cream cone was reportedly invented during the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis when an ice cream vendor ran out of bowls and teamed up with a waffle vendor to make cones. See you on the 19th at Sharon Wisconsin Ice Shoppe.

FRIENDS AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

by Larry and Marsha Eils

Mark your calendar - Wednesday, August 26, 2015. The Eils are holding a Friends Around the Campfire. Festivities will begin at 7:00 pm. This even is very weather dependent and with all the rain we have had in June, let's hope the weather becomes drier in July and August.

So bring your comfortable lawn chairs (some seating provided), a campfire snack to share and your favorite beverage (soft drinks and water provided) to Harvard. Come and enjoy the pond and watch the fish. No fishing allowed!

We are looking forward to seeing you around the campfire.

FUTURE EVENTS

If you would like to host the drive to "Coffee in the Park in Lake Mills, WI on August 2nd, please see Jim Vickery.

August 7-9 is John Twist's University Motors MG Summer Party Reunion in Grand Rapids, MI. Anyone going??

The Vickery's will leave for Botham Vineyards Car Show at the Schnuck's parking lot in Roscoe, IL at 7:30 am on Sunday, August 9th. Please join us for a pretty drive up and a great show venue.

The August **Drive and Dine** will be at the Second Salem Brewing Company. Whitewater, WI, hosted by Rich & Roxann Cannistra. Sounds like a fun place!

REGALIA JULY 2015
BBB REGALIA ONLINE STORE

by Bruce Beneditz

We have been helping Donna out by liquidating BBB stock from Jake's business. The remaining items are:

Red Hooded Embroidered Jacket sizes L(1), 2XL(2), 3XL(2) - \$40
White mesh ball cap with BBB Logo (1) - \$10
Tan visor with BBB Logo (1) - \$10

We also have club merchandise for sale.

BBB Grill Badge - \$30
BBB Hat Pin - \$1
BBB Logo Wall Clock - \$15



These items can be purchased by contacting Bruce Beneditz. All other regalia can be purchased online using our Club Regalia Page. You buy online, securely pay with your credit card, and select one of the following delivery options:

Shipped directly to you (additional charge)
Pick up at EmbroidThis in Roscoe, IL (no charge)
Pick up a Club Meeting (no charge)

Now that summer seems to be finally here go out and enjoy your British car and wear your BBB Logo regalia proudly.

DID - U - KNOW
by Facia Nearside

In 1871 William Banks Skinner married Jane Lilley, the daughter of successful shoe manufacturer Thomas Lilley. By 1881 Skinner became a partner in the business and the name changed to Lilley & Skinner, a brand that still exists today. Not only was Lilley & Skinner the largest shoe manufacturer in England, it was at one time the largest in the world.

Jane and William had five children. The two oldest boys, Herbert and Thomas, followed their father into the very successful family business.

This provided the means for them to become early adopters of an exciting new technology, the automobile. They bought a French car but were unhappy with the operation of the carburettor. The brothers came up with a better design, one with a bellows made out of fine shoe leather which of course they had in ample supply. Their method worked well and a patent for what they called the Union Carburettor was granted in 1906.

Before long however, the brothers fancied having their name on the product and changed the name to the Skinners Union Carburettor. From that day to this, most people simply know Herbert and Thomas' invention as the SU.



(CHRISTMAS IS COMING!)

MG MORGAN TRIUMPH



LOTUS JAGUAR AUSTIN HEALEY

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Very serious buyer for:

- Jaguar, XK-XKE,
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North American MGB Register