



British Boots & Bonnets Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 22
Issue 3

March 12, 2017

Editor
Lynda Vickery

Website
www.britishbootsandbonnets.com

Next Meeting
**Wednesday,
March 15, 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

MARCH 2017

March is lining up to be a very exciting month with "March Madness" upon us and most basketball aficionados eagerly awaiting the all-important "Bracketology" when we can place our bets for our favorite teams to make the "Round of 32", "The Sweet 16", "Elite 8" and of course the most exciting "Final Four", hope your teams do well. March for Sandi and me is very exciting for another more important reason that is more closely related to British Boots & Bonnets, our long trek in search of a "bonded title for our MGTF 1500 is close to being over and we anticipate getting it registered by the end of April just in time for warm top-down weather.

As you know by now we bought our TF in Corpus Christi, TX many years ago and shipped her through some 6 states before landing here in northern IL. Somewhere in all that traveling and moving we "misplaced" the original TX title and started the process of getting a new IL title. Since we had no title the state of IL requires you to post a "bonded title" which simply means lots of paper work, securing a bond for 1.5 times the appraised value of the car from an insurance company which requires an official appraisal of the car and a notarized history of your ownership of the car. Good news, we have the bond and will be contacting IL DMV for our new license. We still have the original TX plates "MGT15" and hope to secure another good plate.

I had the pleasure of attending the club's 2017 events planning meeting held this past Saturday at Bruce and Phyllis Beneditz home and can tell you the committee has some very exciting events planned from Drive & Dine to weekend trips. Bruce is an excellent steward of this important committee and I urge you to step up and volunteer as hosts for one of this year's events. The calendar will be presented shortly

Well our visions of top-down warmer weather are getting stronger even though as I write this it is 32 degrees outside and the weather forecast is for snow tonight and all day tomorrow with maybe 6 to 8 inches of powdery snow - be careful out there! See you at our Wednesday meeting.

John



MARQUE ADVERTISING SLOGAN OF THE MONTH 1978 MGB:

Sun, Wind, Action. MGB - "Better Knees in 1 Week"

Feb. 15, 2017 BOOTS AND BONNETS CLUB MEETING

President's Report - John Ward

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, John Ward. He introduced our new member, Ken Pacholski, proud owner of a 1966 Triumph Spitfire.

John also reviewed our raffle prizes for tonight, and welcomed Joyce Pond back. It was good to see her again.

Vice President's Report - Brian Kobischka

No report

Secretary's report - Dee Gibson

Motion was made BY Don Grosenick to accept the report as printed in the Chronicle.
Second by Lyn Pond - Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Lee Kindgren

Lee presented the monthly treasurer's report.
Motion to accept Treasurers report by Larry Eils
Second by Steve Carter - motion passed.

Membership - Bev Joyce

We now have 77 paid memberships, including Chris Anderson, who joined through the internet, and tonight's new member, Ken Pacholski.

Regalia - Jim Vickery

No report

Chronicle/Newsletter - Lynda Vickery

Please continue to send articles and pictures for the Chronicle to Lynda.

Webmaster - Hal Zenisek

Our website is currently up to date. New officers and the calendar to date have been added. As always, we are looking for any updated pictures for the member's page.

Sunshine - Phyllis Beneditz

Jim and Julie Roberts. Julie is not doing well. A card has been sent from the club.

Past Events - Bruce Beneditz

Bil and Solveig Maschke hosted the February Dine at the AERO ALE HOUSE in Loves Park. We had a large turnout for this event. The food and company were both wonderful. Thank you Bil & Solveig!

Future Events - Bruce Beneditz

2/24 Men's Lunch at Garretts Restaurant - 1:00

2/24 Ladies Lunch at Imperial Gardens - 12:30

3/8 Drive & Dine at "Gene's Place" 4412 Manchester Drive, Rockford 6:00, hosted by Bil & Solveig Maschke.

3/11 Event planning meeting at Beneditz home. All ideas and input welcome and encouraged.

3/19 Swap meet in Wheaton, IL.

4/22 Ladies Tea, hosted by Chris Oaks

4/22 Garage Tour

Unfinished Business

We still have calendars available. If you have not picked yours up yet, please see Dave Brickman.

Also, plans are under way for next year's calendar. If you have pictures of any club events that you would like to share, please send them to Dave.

Good Wrench Award

Lee Kindgren nominated Joyce Pond for joining us at our meeting tonight. The vote was unanimous, and Joyce received five raffle tickets.

Burnt Piston Award

None

Raffle - Don Grosenick

1. Box of Blue Shop Towels - Greg Oaks
2. LED Sidekick Pick-Up Tool - Sandi Ward
3. Non-contact Infrared Thermometer - Luz Lehman
4. Gray Felt Sleeve Pouch - Connie Frazier
5. Insulated Lunch Bag - Larry Eils
6. Set of 4 Plant Watering Stakes - Ken Pacholski
7. Set of three Bamboo cutting boards - Rich Cannistra
8. Thunder Bay Bucks - Leon Kitzmiller

Adjournment

President John Ward told the story of how he acquired his yellow MG.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marna Grosenick for Dee Gibson, Secretary



**BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS
2017 CALENDAR of EVENTS**

Check out all the fun and interesting activities planned for this year! If you can help by hosting an event, please let Bruce Beneditz know.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| March 15 | BBB CLUB MEETING
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL |
| March 19 | British Car Swap Meet & Autojumble;
DuPage County Fairgrounds; Wheaton, IL
Greg Oakes coordinator |
| April 12 | BBB Dine - Tuscan Grill, Roscoe, IL
Hosts: Bruce & Phyllis Beneditz |
| April 19 | BBB CLUB MEETING
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL |
| April 22 | BBB Garage Tour Looking for a venue |
| April 22 | BBB Ladies Tea -
Hostess: Chris Oakes |
| April 28-30 | Spring Jefferson Car Show and Swap Meet
Jefferson, WI |
| May 10 | BBB Drive & Dine - TBD
Hosts: Don & Marna Grosenick |
| May 17 | BBB CLUB MEETING
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL |

May 20 **BBB Saturday Drive** - Wisconsin Automotive Museum,
Hartford, WI
Hosts: Rich & Roxann Cannistra

May 27 - June 4 **British Car Awareness Week**
June 2-4 **Champagne British Car Festival**,
Featured DeLorean;
Bloomington, IL

June 14 **BBB Drive & Dine** - TBD
Hosts: Rich & Roxann Cannistra

June 16-18 **Blackhawk Farms Vintage Races (Father's Day)**; South
Beloit, IL

June ?? **35th Annual British Car Field Day**; Sussex, WI
June 21 **BBB CLUB MEETING**
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

June 24 **BBB Saturday Drive** - Waiting to finalize the date and venue
June 25-28 **NAMGBR 2017 Convention** - San Diego
July 8 **BBB Saturday Drive** - A Day at the Lake (rain date July 9)
Hosts: Rich & Dee Gibson

July 12 **BBB Drive & Dine** - TBD
Host: Steve & Polly Carter

July 19 **BBB CLUB MEETING**
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

August 9 **BBB Drive & Dine** - TBD
Hosts: John & Sandi Ward

August 12 **BBB Saturday Drive** - Lunch on a River Boat & the Maritime
Museum; Dubuque, IA
Hosts: The Grosenicks & the Eils

August 13 **22nd Annual Vintage Celebration at Botham Vineyards**,
Barneveld, WI

August 16 **BBB CLUB MEETING**
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

August 20 **Poplar Grove Airport Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast**
August 26 **Crossroads Blues Festival**
Sept 8-11 **BBB Long Weekend to Hannibal, MO** (Tentative date)
Hosts: Rich & Dee Gibson

Sept 13 **BBB Drive & Dine** - TBD
Host: TBD

Sept 20 **BBB CLUB MEETING**
Thunder Bay Restaurant; Rockford, IL

Sept 22-24 **Fall Jefferson Car Show & Swap Meet**
Oct 7 **BBB Alpaca Farms & Boots Around the Campfire**
Hosts: The Bartletts & the Eils

Oct 11 **BBB Drive & Dine** - TBD
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
Dec ?? **BBB Cookie Exchange Party**
Dec 13 **BBB Christmas Party**

DID - U - KNOW

by Facia Nearside

WHAT'S IN A NAME, PART 3: In 2011 Volkswagen unveiled its newest "city car", the "Up". Designed in Brazil, it was built in Slovakia and launched in Germany. As part of Volkswagen's New Small Family of models the Up is...well, small! A sloping front end followed by two doors and a rear hatch sums it Up. Powered by about anything that would fit in a breadbox those options range from a 1.0L petrol engine to a permanent magnet electric motor and everything in between.

The real fun however seems to be in the name, a fact not lost upon the presenters of Top Gear here in the UK. Our British models include the Take Up, Move Up, High Up, Black and Up, and White and Up. Elsewhere, when natural gas powered it's the Eco Up, and a four door model is the Cross Up. The electric version naturally enough is the E-Up and a VW bus looking offering with solar panels on the roof is the Space Up. A soon to be released hybrid will be the Blue Up. Finally, a compact version (is that possible?!?) with a two cylinder diesel engine is the Lite Up.

Perhaps what Volkswagen really needs is the Shape Up in order to Wrap Up their recent diesel fiasco and Cover Up!

JOHN AND SANDI WARD'S MGTF

A restoration in pictures.



Larry Eils wanted to share a thought:

Remember - In a Mini, every day is a rally day.



BBB WEBMASTER REPORT

Greetings all,

I thought it was time for another website "*traffic report*" as we start to think about spring and getting back on the open roads. The new website continues to get a good amount of traffic, and our hosting service provides some helpful analytics for webmasters to ponder over in their spare time. The following are some highlights of that data which I thought were worth sharing with all. From the last 12 months of traffic to your website at www.britishbootsandbonnets.com, the following patterns emerged:

- 1 An average of 171 visitors per month (from March 2016 to February 2017, with September, August and June being the busiest months). That's an average of 5.7 visitors each day.
- 2 Those visitors viewed an average of 450 pages each month (2.6 pages per visit).
- 3 34% used a mobile device to access the website and 66% are on desktop computers.
- 4 Mobile device use ranged from a low of 20% in December & January, to a high of 60% in September. And we saw much more traffic from desktops in December - February than the rest of the year. Maybe it's cold outside!
- 5 66% of mobile device users had an iPhone, iPad, or other device using the Apple IOS operating system.
- 6 Top 3 most frequent Page Views: (1) Events, (2) Newsletters, (3) Event Photos.
- 7 Top referrers (this is how people found us): (1) 59% went to the site directly, (2) 19% searched on Google, (3) 18% came from other British car club websites (Iowa, Chicagoland MG, ISOA, Vintage MG, etc.). And worth noting, 3% came from the Moss Motors website.
- 8 Log-in times ranged from 02:12 am to 11:43 pm.

One thing this traffic report demonstrates once again - it is very important for everyone (members and officers) to send me event information for the calendar as early as possible; a few photos after each event for the picture gallery; monthly newsletters, general club announcements, and of course new & current member pics with cars. For example, to date we have no 2017 event photos to post, and I especially need everyone's help with these pages on the club's website.

Thanks for reading,

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.

Julie J. Roberts 1954–2017

Julie Joanne Roberts, age 62, passed away on February 16, 2017 surrounded by her loved ones in her home in Roscoe, IL. Julie married Jim Roberts in 1978 and they have resided in Roscoe for 30 years. Jim and Julie have been longtime members of British Boots & Bonnets. She worked in trusts and investments, most recently at First National Bank and Trust in Beloit, WI, but her greatest work was as a mother. Known for being warm, nurturing, and kind to all, Julie was also famous for her abundance of snacks available at all times and being a gracious hostess. Some of her favorite activities included gardening, feeding birds and her "creatures," stoking bonfires, and playing with her beloved grandchildren, Phillip Jr. and Parker. Julie is survived by her husband, Jim; son, Phillip (Casey); daughter, Jamie (Daniel) Karp; sister, Tracy (Jim) Douglas; brother, Chuck (Liz) Wenzler and many extended family members and friends. The family would like to recognize the amazing work of the medical staff at the Carbone Cancer Center at UW Madison, Swedish American Heart Hospital, Swedish American Stateline Clinic and Northern Illinois Hospice. Julie chose to be donated to UW Madison for research.

Published in the Rockford Register Star

David A. Callison 1938-2017

David A. Callison of Poplar Grove passed peacefully Friday, February 17, 2017. Born July 15, 1938, in Galesburg, IL. Former resident of Wheeling and Galesburg, IL. He served as a [U.S. Navy](#) pilot. Survived by his nephew, Michael (Sandy) Morgan and niece, Anne (Joel) Briggs. Predeceased by his sister, Mary Morgan. Close friend of Wally (Cheryl) Falardeau. Friend to many. Memorials may be made to Poplar Grove Aviation Education Association.

David was an early member of British Boots & Bonnets. He attended many of the car shows at Poplar Grove Airport and was instrumental in having Stearman antique airplanes on hand to give rides to attendance/raffle winners.

Published in the Rockford Register Star

Ida Mae Erickson 1916-2017

Ida Mae Erickson, the mother of Sandi Ward passed away Wednesday, March 1, 2017. She celebrated her 100th birthday May 30, 1916. Survivors include her sister, Agnes Ropers; daughter, Sandra (John) Ward; daughter-in-law, Joan Schluter; four grandchildren, Terry (Kym) Schluter, Kathy (John) Pope, Bryant (Joanne) Ward and Brooke Ward; as well as nine great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends. Ida Mae was a light to those who knew her. Family was at the core of who she was and she leaves behind a legacy of love, gratitude, unending dignity and strength of character.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 7, 2017. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or to the MS Society.

Published in the Baraboo News Republic

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

2017 Officers & Contacts:

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Lee Kindgren, Treasurer	leekrkfd@aol.com	815-299-2110 (C)
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Jim Vickery, Regalia Chair	jim.vickery@yahoo.com	815-623-5611 (H)
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THE BALL SEAT STARTING DEVICE
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TWO WAYS OF CRANKING

"This starts so easily that I love it." *"This is what I hate about driving a car."*

Many progressive builders are arranging to use our device and dispense with the starting crank on their new models. Don't buy a car with a starting crank, for next year it will be a worse back number than the rear entrance car.

If you are tired of standing in the mud and cranking the engine of your old car, give us a description of it and we will see if it cannot be brought up to date in the matter of easy seat starting.

F. H. & F. O. BALL **Plainfield, N. J.**

FEBRUARY 2017 DINE EVENT

by

Lynda Vickery

Solveig and Bil Maschke picked a great place for our February Dine - the Aero Ale House in Loves Park, IL. "Aero" for the nostalgic airplane and aeronautic theme and "Ale" of course for ale - what British car owner doesn't identify with British ale?? And there has always been an affinity between airplanes and British cars. The 25+ turnout of club members shows that we are ready to enjoy another year of enjoying time with our club members and driving our LBCs. Thank you Solveig and Bil!



GENE'S PLACE

MARCH 2017 DINE EVENT by Lynda Vickery

Bil and Solveig were so successful with the February Dine, that they volunteered to find a spot for March! They selected Gene's Place, located near South Alpine and Harrison Avenues, and it was a treat for all 23 BBB members who attended. Gene's was gearing up for a St. Patrick's Day Celebration so was appropriately decorated.

The menu offers a wide variety of dinner selections, sandwiches, salads, and soups.

I don't believe anyone went home hungry! Our waitress, Danielle, took care of our every need.

We had a nice evening of chatting, catching up with everyone's winter activities, and talking about getting our British cars out of storage and on the road.

Thank you Solveig and Bil!





EVENTS - MARCH 2017 NEWS LETTER

March is the month where things start getting busy for British Boots and Bonnets. On Saturday, March 11, a small group of us gathered at Phyllis and my house to begin the process of filling out the club calendar for the year. Thanks to the help from Rich and Roxann, Marsha and Larry, Don and Marna, Rich and Dee, and John Ward I think we got a real good start. Some very interesting events are already in the planning stage. But there still are opportunities for someone to step up and host a Saturday Drive or a Drive and Dine. At this time we do not have a venue for the spring garage tour. Let me know if you have an idea.

Look over the calendar to check out what is happening and where there are openings that you might be able to provide help.

You will also notice that there are a couple of events missing this year. The Vickery's are unable to host what has become the annual Spring Tune-up and Picnic this year. There also will be no Fall Picnic at Ed and Luz Lehman's farm due to a scheduling conflict. If anyone has an idea for filling either of these holes in the calendar, let me know.

The first out of town event of the year happens on Sunday, March 17. It is the Twenty First Annual British Car Swap Meet & Autojumble at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, IL. I am always amazed at how much junk some people are selling. But I also usually find a treasure that I have to have. I will be there and hope to see you too. I owe a big thank you to Greg Oakes who will be there early to set up our tables and get things going.

British Boots and Bonnets thrives on being active with many people volunteering to make it happen. Contact the Events Chairman, Bruce Beneditz, to host an event, have an idea but don't know how to get it going, or if you have any questions. Together we can make this a fun and memorable summer.

Safety Fast,

Bruce Beneditz



BBB REGALIA ONLINE

MARCH 2017

Non-clothing related club merchandise is available by contacting Jim Vickery.

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



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Next Meeting
Wednesday, March 15, 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