

Absentee Ballot

British Boots & Bonnets **January 2024** **Election of Officers**

Pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 6 of the Club Bylaws, the following ballot is published to allow for absentee voting. **If you are unable to attend the meeting on January 17, 2024 and wish to vote, please do so below.**

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Vote of Member #1</u>	<u>Vote of Member #2</u>
President	Dennis Klemm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	Bill Leese	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Dee Gibson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Connie Frazier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Membership	Rick Palmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Events Chair	Ron Kuhnau	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regalia Chair	Bruce Beneditz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newsletter Editor	Lynda Vickery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Webmaster	Hal Zenisek	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ballots must be received by the Club Secretary at least two days prior to the voting meeting which takes place on January 17, 2024. NOTE: If you wish to volunteer or nominate someone else for one of the above positions, you must attend the meeting to do so.

Signed by Member #1: _____ Date: _____

Signed by Member #2: _____ Date: _____

**Mail the completed ballot to British Boots and Bonnets Car Club,
PMB 254, 1643 North Alpine Rd, Suite 104, Rockford, IL 61107**



British Boots & Bonnets Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 29
Issue 1 Jan 8 , 2024

Editor
Lynda Vickery

Website
www.britishbootsandbonnets.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jan 2024

Happy New Year!

The salt trucks and snow plows are out so early this year, I hope that you and your LBC's are keeping warm.

We had a wonderful time at Lino's for the annual Christmas party, lots of laughs and gift stealing. The next meeting is scheduled for January 17th where elections for new board members will take place. Hope to see you there!

Also, a friendly reminder to pay your yearly membership dues in January.

While most of us will be sitting in the house most of the winter, I encourage you to come up with ideas or plans, for activities once the inclement weather subsides.

Feel free to reach out to Ron with those ideas.

Warm Regards,

Dennis

Next Meeting
Wednesday,

Jan 17, 2024

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

**Dinner and social hour
at 6:00 pm**

Meeting begins at 7:00pm



November 15, 2023 British Boots & Bonnets Meeting

President's Report - Dennis Klemm -

Meeting called to order @ 7:02 pm

Number of members present 27

New members - none

Guests - none

Vice President's Report -Crystal Klemm - no report

Secretary's Report -Chris Oakes

October 18, 2023 Minutes as printed in the Chronicle newsletter and corrected by Chris Oakes were approved.

Motions to accept the minutes was made by Crystal Klemm

Seconded by Phyllis Beneditz Approved

Corrections to the October, 2023 minutes - none

Treasurer's Report - Brian Kobischka

Activity for the period of ending November 15,2023

Cash and Bank Accounts

BMO Harris Checking Account	\$ 3230.58
BMO Harris Savings Account	\$ 3059.53
Total Cash & Bank Accounts	\$ 6290.11
Total Liabilities / Expenses	\$
Overall Total	\$ 6290.11
Income	
Dues 2023	\$ 10.00
Dues 2024	\$ 19.00
Christmas Pary 2023	\$ 500.00
Raffle Income	\$ 138.00
Regalia -	\$
Nametags	\$ 9.00
Total Regalia income	\$
interest	\$.03
Total Income	\$ 676.03

Expenses

Bank Fees	\$
Event - Christmas Party deposit	\$
Corporation File/ annual report	\$
Newsletter	\$
Raffle Expense	\$
Regalia - Name Tags	\$
Total Regalia Expenses	\$
Post Office Box Rental	\$
Sunshine Memorial	\$
Yearly Maintenance	\$
Overall Total Expenses	\$
Overall Total	\$

Motion to accept: Bruce Beneditz 2nd : Hal Zenisek **Approved**

Membership - Beverly Joyce - 78 members

Chronicle Newsletter - Lynda Vickery

Webmaster - Hal Zenisek

Sunshine - Phyllis Beneditz -

Donna Jaquet recently had a knee replacement and is doing well.

Peggy Kitzmiller's sister (Grace Jenkins) passed away in early November.

Events - Ron Kuhnau - absent - no report

Past Events

Club Events.... Upcoming

December 13: BBB Christmas Party @ Lino's - Remember to RSVP

Regalia - Bruce Beneditz - Regalia ideas for Christmas gifts - Car Badges, pins

Classified - none

New Business -

2024 Board Members needed... The club members in attendance were asked for nominees or volunteers for the vacancies. None were submitted.

Vice President:

Treasurer:

Secretary: fill October 18, by Dee Gibson volunteering

Membership Chair:

BBB as an Affiliated member of NAMGBR - Greg Oakes discovered that BBB was not listed as an Affiliate Club member in NAMGBR on the website. At the meeting, we asked for a show of hands to determine if we had the required 8 BBB members that were also members of NAMGBR. We did not have a clear idea if we had 8 members.

After the meeting, Chris Oakes sent an email to all members to determine which members did belong to NAMGBR or were planning to join, to determine our eligibility for Affiliated membership in NAMGBR.

This affiliation is important because it provides liability insurance for BBB events. If we are not affiliated with NAMGBR, then BBB needs to purchase liability insurance.

Unfinished business - none

Raffle - Connie Frazer and Solveig Maschke

Item	Recipient
1. Cyclamen plant	Lynda Vickery
2. Cyclamen plant	Zack Robbins
3. Gnome	Brian Kobischka
4. Holiday Tree	Solveig Maschke
5. Sprecher Taproom Snacks	Tommy Leese
6. 6 piece hook & pic set	Hal Zenisek
7. Meguiars Hot Rims Wheel/ tire cleaner (NAPA)	David Wakefield
8. LED Safety Flasher (donated by Bev Joyce & Brian Kobischka)	Crystal Klemm
9. Indoor/ Outdoor thermometer	Alan Cichon
10. Amish popcorn 10 pack	Hannah Palmer

Adjournment

Motion made by ___Brian Kobischka _____

Second by ___Bruce Beneditz _____

Motion passed and meeting adjourned at ___7:29___ pm

Submitted by: Chris Oakes

BBB Website Year in Review – 2023

For those interested, during the calendar year 2023, the club's website saw a decrease of 12% in traffic for the year. Key metrics from Squarespace, our web hosting service, are shared with all club members after the end of each year. For January – December 2023:

- Total Visitors = 3,081 with a monthly average of 257, and those visitors viewed 5,827 different pages on our website (an average of 440/month).
- Total visitor traffic was down 12.5% from 2022.
- The busiest months were August, June, and May. Winter months were again the slowest.
- 32% of visitors came from searches on Google, Bing, or other web browsers, 64% came direct, and 4% came via social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and others).
- The Club had more desktop users than mobile device users by a slim margin. However, the trend lines for mobile use are increasing and this may soon flip. The website is mobile friendly and has been for several years. It was designed and built for mobile use in mind.
- Website related expenses for 2023 increased slightly this year due to higher licensing fees for the domain registry, web hosting services, email hosting and related costs.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments. I appreciate all the past support received from everyone related to our website and web related strategies. I am looking forward to 2024 club activities, and continuing to use the website to help support club members, officers, and guests with accurate and up-to-date information about as many club events and British car related information as possible.

Your webmaster, Hal Zenisek



British Boots & Bonnets

2024 EVENTS SCHEDULE - Preliminary

BRITISH BOOTS AND BONNETS EVENTS:

- Jan 17 BBB Club Meeting, Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00
 Thunder Bay Grille, Rockford, IL
- Feb BBB February Dine
- Feb 21 BBB Club Meeting, Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00
 Thunder Bay Grille, Rockford, IL
- Mar 13 BBB March Dine OPEN
- Mar 20 BBB Club Meeting, Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00
 Thunder Bay Grille, Rockford, IL
- Mar 24 27th Annual All Sportscar Swap Meet & Autojumble, 8:00-2:00
 DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Rd,
 N County Farm Rd, Wheaton, IL 61087
 <https://chicagolandmgclub.com/swapmeet/>
- Apr 10 BBB April Drive & Dine OPEN
- Apr 17 BBB Club Meeting, Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00
 Thunder Bay Grille, Rockford, IL

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL EVENTS:

- Feb 10 Drive Your Triumph Day - Sir John Black's Birthday
 Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club
 driveyourtriumphday@gmail.com

MEMBERS OF BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS WERE HAPPY
TO BE TOGETHER FOR OUR ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS PARTY AT LENO'S

The 23rd BBB Christmas Party was held at Lino's and 41 members and guests attended. In this newsletter are photos taken by Rich Cannistra which show the good time had by all. As they have for so many years, Lino's did a great job of setting us up and hosting. Thanks to everyone for attending, because the more the merrier. Thank you to Lynda, Phyllis, Connie, and Rich for their help in making this year's party another success. A special thanks to Ricky and Hannah Palmer for running the gift exchange.

Please mark your calendars for December 11, 2024 for next year's party.

Submitted by Bev Joyce

Enjoy these classic photos showing
what a good time everyone had!















WINTER WEARY



I'm waiting for temps to improve.
My little Brit car wants to move.
The battery's tested.
The tires have rested.
It's time for that warm summer groove.

But rain and snow keep coming down,
all over this cloud covered town.
It covers the driveway,
the roads and the highway.
My smile quickly fades to a frown.

I'm antsy to get on the road.
Depart from my humble abode.
I'll stop to see hotspots,
some landmarks and fine yachts,
then stop to eat pie a la mode.

I'm waiting now day after day.
Don't anyone get in my way.
I'll take the lead driving,
to soon be arriving
for lunch on a warm Saturday.

With five coats of polish so far,
it's shine will be seen from afar.
I'll vacuum the carpet,
and wipe down the bonnet.
It's now a revered motorcar.

My message to folks in our crew,
the message for you's overdue.
It's time to get scrubbing.
Get wiping and rubbing.
Go make your Brit car look brand new.

by Dee Gibson

BBB REGALIA

I need to clarify a recurring problem with the purchase of BBB Regalia at Embroid This.

Our agreement with Embroid This is to allow the BBB Logo to be placed on any item a club member chooses. However, some BBB members have been denied the opportunity to pick out an item, (shirt, hoodie, etc.) and have it embroidered with the BBB Logo.

The root of the issue is that most organizations that Embroid This deals with have a closed catalog. Their online store limits what can be ordered to comply with the official company uniform. BBB has an open catalog where the online store only contains examples of what can be purchased.

Sometimes an Embroid This employee does not remember that BBB has an open catalog where anything is fair game. Because of this, they will deny any purchase that is not in our online catalog. If this occurs with you, please call me, even while you are in the store, and I will reiterate to the employee that it is ok by our rules.

I am very sorry for the inconvenience and frustration that this has caused.

Bruce Beneditz, Regalia Chairman

AN AFTERNOON OF FRIENDSHIP AND FUN

Carol and Ed Eggleston were one the founding couples of our British Boots & Bonnets Car Club. Carol has always been very active in Club activities and enjoyed attending meetings, drives and dines, car shows, and years of ladies teas. She isn't able to keep that pace up anymore. She very much wanted to attend the Christmas Party in December, but was not able to.

So, a group of BBB Ladies decided to spend an afternoon with her in her new home at Cherryvale Place. Everyone wanted to bring cookies which we enjoyed with coffee. But the best part was having time to visit, to catch up with each other, and reminisce about the good times we have had. And everyone wants to do it again! Maybe when Spring comes we can get outside for a garden party.

Those attending were Barb Buckavakas, Lynda Vickery, Sue Lindsay-Jones, Connie Frazier, Roxann Cannistra, Candy Pelkey, Sandy Hamaker, Delores Moon, and Carol Eggleston.



DID – U - KNOW

by Facia Nearside

The Singer Bicycle Company began motorized production in 1901 by acquiring rights to the Perks & Birch Motor-Wheel. Motor-Wheel sales continued until 1904 in several versions including a tricycle with a steering wheel. In 1905 Singer began a very successful ten year run of motorcycle production. They also made their first four-wheeled car that year, and displayed it at the Olympic Motor Show. By 1910 Singer cars were regularly winning prestigious races, and the old adage “Win on Sunday, sell on Monday” was proving quite successful.

Just prior to the war Singer introduced the Ten, which was the company’s first big success. The Ten soon caught the interest of cycle racer Lionel Martin who successfully modified one and almost doubled the top speed. Martin raced his modified Ten at the Aston Clinton Hillclimb developing a solid reputation, ultimately leading to the marque: Aston Martin. After the war the Ten was converted to overhead valves and its popularity continued.

Singer’s success in the industry lead to a wide range of products which included lorries, buses, and vans in addition to automobiles. By 1928 they were the UK’s third largest motor manufacturer after Austin and Morris. Never one to shy away from innovation, Singer introduced four-wheel brakes in 1924 and by 1932 left hand drive was available for export. In 1934 no clutch gear shifting was offered as well as independent from suspension. Even a retractable luggage rack was available.



With the outbreak of WWII Singer's resources turned to making parts for Spitfire fighters and Wellington bombers as well as gun components and shell casings. At war's end production resumed with their prewar designs, but it became obvious a new model was needed going forward. Although long in the tooth, Singer Nine and Ten production continued through 1949 while the new car was developed. In an effort to boost flagging sales they even ran an advert showing Lucille



Singer Nine

Ball sitting in her Singer Nine Roadster. (You can find the copyrighted image online.)

The new car debuted in 1949 and is perhaps the best-known Singer in America, the SM 1500. Unfortunately, the chairman of the board of directors summed up the gloom on the horizon when he admitted the SM 1500 was built using “outdated



Singer SM 1500

prewar technology”. The car had a four-speed gearbox but with a column shifter which made it difficult to select second and reverse. The styling was intended to be modern but it was known as one of the ugliest saloons of its day. Designed to be sturdy and reliable the controls were too heavy for most women to operate, and at a time when American automobiles were becoming wider

and more luxurious this overpriced foreign offering was not what buyers were looking for.

By 1955 Singer was in financial difficulty allowing Rootes Brothers to acquire it the following year. From 1958 all Singer cars were simply badge-engineered Rootes products. The last car to be called a Singer was a rear engine Hillman Imp called the Chamois in 1970. Almost 96 years to the day from when George Singer founded the Singer Bicycle Company the once proud business became another British motoring footnote. But there was indeed a time when you could “Step up in the world in a Singer and settle back in Luxury”.

DUK2024/1

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

Please include \$20 annual membership dues plus a one-time fee of \$18 for name tags.



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**BRITISH
BOOTS & BONNETS
CAR CLUB
2023 OFFICERS &
CHAIRPERSONS**

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VICE PRESIDENT: Crystal Klemm
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hzenisek@comcast.net

SUNSHINE: Phyllis Beneditz
phyllisquilts@charter.net



EMBROID THIS
7830 N. 2nd St.
Machesney Park, IL
info@embroidthis.com
815.623.2200

BBB REGALIA ONLINE
JANUARY 2024



Regalia club merchandise is available by contacting Bruce Beneditz. This includes:

- BBB Grill Badge - \$35
- BBB Hat/Lapel Pin - \$1

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 Embroid This (no charge)

Bruce, bruce.beneditz@charter.net

Lynda Vickery, *Chronicles Editor*
British Boots & Bonnets Car Club
5549 Gray Eagle Road
Roscoe, IL 61073



Next Meeting
Wednesday,
January 17, 2024

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

Social hour and dinner at 6:00pm.