



# British Boots & Bonnetts Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 25  
Issue 9  
Sept. 2, 2020

Editor  
Lynda Vickery

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

Next Meeting  
Wednesday,  
**Sept. 16, 2020**

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 Report

September 2020

We are now in August which I always consider the last month of summer. Usually vacations are over and school is starting. This year is different, we still have Covid-19. Nothing seems to be normal. Some of us with underlying medical issues are still in hiding. I hope all of you are doing your best to do what you feel safe doing and using your British cars.

I want to thank Larry Eils for doing a super job with events this year as it has not been easy. I also want to thank all the other Board Members who have helped keep the club active. Even with the virus, we have had some great events this year. Also, we have had a lot of couples or small groups getting together outside of club events enjoying their British Cars. I also want to thank all of you who participated in the events. We are currently working on the Christmas Party to see if it will be feasible. We will need a guaranteed number of people attending before we can reserve the room at Lino's. Larry and Bev are heading this up and will keep us all posted on how it is progressing.

Looking forward to better times when we can function like normal. Hopefully, 2021 will be that time. I will leave you with the following British humor.

*A couple of hikers were tramping through the countryside and had lost their way, so by the time they arrived at the "George and Dragon", the village pub where they'd arranged to stay the night, the doors were locked and the owners had gone to bed. They knocked timidly on the front door.*

*A head appeared at an upstairs window and shouted, 'Go away. Don't you know what time it is? We're closed,' and the window slammed shut.*

*Undeterred, the hikers knocked again. 'What is it now?' demanded the head.*

*'Could we speak to George this time please?' asked on the hikers.*



*Safety Fast,*

*Lee Kindgren*

## **AUGUST 2020 BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS CLUB MEETING**

### **President's Report -**

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Larry Eils. Due to the Corona Virus and personal considerations, many board members and members did not attend. Seven members were present. A warm welcome to new members Bob and Diane Schwarzkopf! No guests were present. No raffle tonight as Don and Marna could not attend.

### **Vice President's Report - Solveig Maschke - No report**

### **Secretary's Report - Dee Gibson**

A motion was made by Larry Eils to accept the July report as printed in the July Chronicle. Seconded by Rich Gibson. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report - Connie Frazier**

Larry Eils made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Rich Gibson seconded the motion. Treasurer's report was approved.

### **Membership - Beverly Joyce**

There are currently 67 members.

### **Chronicle/Newsletter - Lynda Vickery**

No report

NOTE: A replacement for The Newsletter Chairman is much needed.

### **Sunshine - Phyllis Beneditz - No report.**

### **Regalia - Jim Vickery - No report**

**Events - Larry Eils**

Seven cars motored over country roads on August 12th for a "Picnic in the Park" in a pavilion, hosted by Bruce and Phyllis Beneditz. And of course there was the obligatory trip to Sharon for ice cream.

Hopefully, the Eils will be able to host their Campfire on October 10th. Another Picnic in the Park is planned for Wednesday, September 9th. We have no word yet regarding the annual Christmas party at Lino's. There will be no Cookie Exchange this year.

**Marques:**

The 5-year meeting of the MG's will be held in Atlantic City next year.

**Webmaster - Hal Zenisek - No report.**

**Classified - None**

**Unfinished Business- None**

**Burnt Piston Award -None**

**Good Wrench Award - None**

**Raffle - None**

**Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Dee Gibson, Secretary

## UPDATE ABOUT BBB EVENTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2020

Larry Eils, Events Chair

In light of the current pandemic situation in Illinois and Wisconsin, your Board continues to discuss our planned events for the remainder of the year.

The August "Picnic in the Park" held on Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> was well attended. It was a beautiful day for a picnic and a drive. A big **Thank You** to Bruce and Phyllis Beneditz for putting this together. Please see the article in this month's Chronicle.

Since everyone who participated in the "Picnic in the Park" had such a good time, the group suggested we do it again in September. So, on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, those members who can come, will gather to do another "Picnic in the Park." More information on this event can be found in an article in this month's Chronicle.

A bonfire has been scheduled for Saturday, October 10 which will bring our, all too short, driving season to an end.

We held our third club meeting since March on August 19<sup>th</sup> at Thunder Bay Inn following the guidelines set forth in Phase 4. Our meeting room was set up with social distancing in mind for indoor dining. Seven club members were present. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be using the booths primarily to meet social distancing requirements with some additional small tables in the room. For those wishing to have dinner, please arrive at 6:00 pm, the meeting will start at 7:00 pm. Club meetings are scheduled for October and November unless it is decided otherwise.

The Board thanks you for your continued patience and understanding.

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## BRITISH BOOTS AND BONNETS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2020

(Please note: Events may be canceled or revised because of the current pandemic, please watch your email or visit the club website for changes)

**September 6 BBB Labor Day Picnic — CANCELED**

**September 9 BBB Drive – Picnic in the Park**

Host: Larry and Marsha Eils

September 12 12<sup>th</sup> British Car Festival CANCELED

Harper College, Palatine, IL

*September 16 Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille*

**September 25-28 Long Weekend – - CANCELED**

September 25-27 Jefferson Car Show; Jefferson, WI

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**October 10 BBB Bonfire Extravaganza**

Host: Larry and Marsha Eils

**October 14 BBB Drive and Dine – With a Twist**

*October 21 Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille*

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**November 11 BBB Dine – CANCELED**

*November 18 Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille*

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**December 9 BBB Cookie Exchange – CANCELED**

**December 16 BBB Christmas Party – TENTATIVE Lino's, Rockford, IL**

*PICNIC IN THE PARK*  
**OUR SEPTEMBER DINING AND DRIVING EVENT**

Host: Larry and Marsha Eils

Once again, we have combined the *Drive and Dine* and the September Driving event into one because of the COVID-19 Phase 4 restrictions. This will be our second driving event of the year so we hope you can join us. We are sure you realize the driving season is coming to an end very fast.

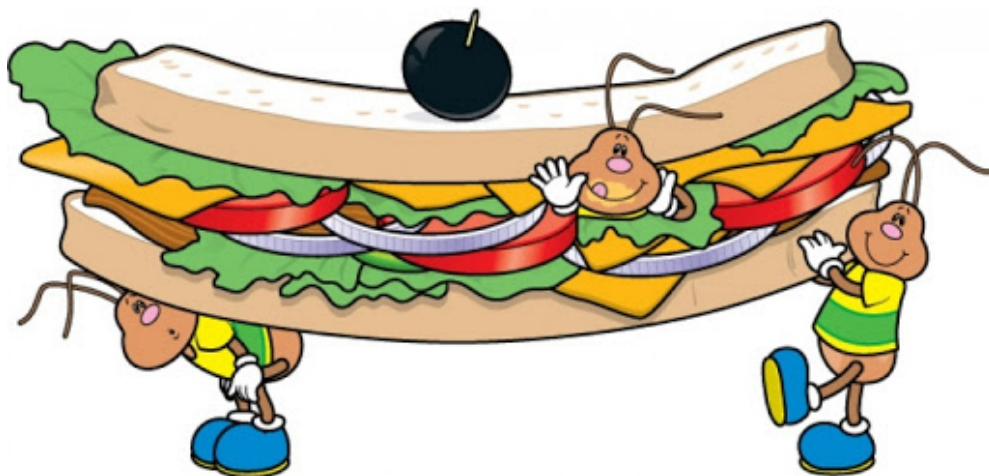
On Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 11:30 am, we will meet in the Church for Life, parking lot in Roscoe. The church is on the northeast corner of Elevator and Willowbrook Roads. Yes, we are meeting, once again, in the afternoon to avoid any crowds that could show up at the park on the weekend. Around 11:45 am Marsha and I will lead you to Blackhawk Springs Forest Preserve, south of Rockford. This park was suggested by Ron and Nancy Kuhnau. We will take a country route circumventing Rockford to get there.

You need to bring a picnic lunch, masks and chairs. There are numerous large picnic tables in the shelter but you may want to practice social distancing, thus the chairs. The park bathrooms are open. The park is 630 acres with the Kiswaukee River running through the middle. There is a large spring, a short distance from the picnic area, you may want to see.

After a leisurely lunch and some exploring of the park, there will be time to visit the Cattle and Cream Dairy Store in Cherry Valley for your favorite ice cream treat.

Please RSVP Larry by email, phone or text by Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, so Marsha and I know how many will be coming. We look forward to seeing you and your British car.

PS. Rain date is Thursday, September 10, 2020. Same time and location.



## AUGUST DRIVE AND DINE - LUNCH VERSION

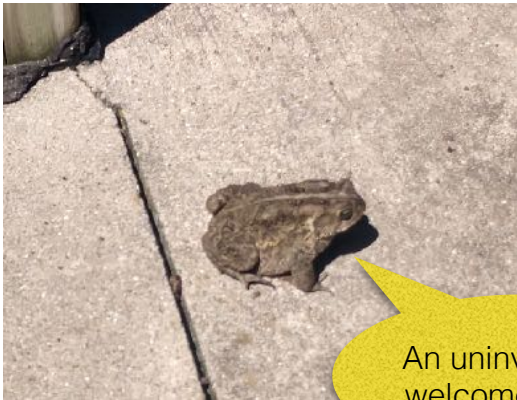
by Phyllis Beneditz

With conditions as they are it was decided to change the typical Drive and Dine into a luncheon instead. There were 7 cars that met at Roscoe Middle School on Wednesday, August 12 at 11:30. Bruce and Phyllis Beneditz then led on a short drive into Wisconsin to Carver-Roehl County Park. They have a very nice shelter with plenty of picnic tables so we were able to spread out and enjoy the lunches that we had brought along. It was so nice to be outside on a such a gorgeous day. A couple of the guys even went for a short walk on the hiking trails!!

Needing to kill some time, we headed over to Turtle Creek Parkway to see the famous 5-arch stone bridge. It is the only 5-arch bridge still in use by the railroad!! The mowing crew was there and in talking with them, we were able to get more history behind this park. The Freeman Shoe Company originally built the lodge there as a retreat center for their employees. They then donated the property to the Beloit Boys and Girls Club. Rock County Parks then was able to purchase the property from them. The park employees even asked permission to take pictures of the cars and post them on their Facebook page!! If you look for Rock County Parks on Facebook, you will see the picture they took and a short article about our trip.

We needed to kill the time because the Sharon Ice Cream Shoppe doesn't open until 3 pm!! After our stop at Turtle Creek, Larry Eils led us over to Sharon and everyone enjoyed a sweet treat to end the trip!!





An uninvited but welcome guest!



*Don't you remember?*

**DO YOU KNOW?**

*Our Wisconsin*

**NINETY-FIVE-YEAR-OLD BRIDGE, A RAILROAD "JEWEL" NEAR TIFFANY**

Like the graceful French bridges that inspired its designer, this five-arched span has contributed beauty and usefulness to the countryside for 95 years near Tiffany in Rock County. It's the North Western Railway bridge over Turtle Creek (for best view from the road, go east to Tiffany on Creek Road, from Rock County Trunk J in Shopiere). It was built in 1869, after two years of planning, by North Western's Chief Engineer Van Mienen. Quarries all over the state were searched for stone of satisfactory quality. Foundation stones were quarried near the west branch of Rock River at Chester, now Waupun. Stone for arches was found at Duck Creek, near Green Bay, and shipped in the rough to the site, where each stone was cut and placed by hand under supervision of John Watson of Chicago and Henry Crane of Janesville. Bridge is 387 feet long; each arch spans 50 feet.





Our newest member, Bob Schwarzkoft, sent the newspaper article above and photo to the left after he and his wife, Diane, joined the picnic and drive. He said a friend remembered his dad talking about the bridge and looking at it from his Aunt's house.

Thanks for sharing Bob! —  
editor



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

New membership applications are available on the club's website.  
Register by sending your completed application to:

Connie Frazier, 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.

## FROM YOUR EDITOR...

Publishing the Chronicles this year has been unusual to say the least. I cannot thank our board members and club members enough for contributing articles, photos, and suggestions to include each month. Before this year the Chronicle, during our driving months, were full of past events, future events, and other activities of our members. Not the case this year!

But we hope you have enjoyed what we have included each month. Larry and his committee have done an excellent job of coming up with creative, fun ideas to keep the club as active as possible. And the photos just have kept coming! Along with articles on interesting car topics.

As fall approaches, I would like to ask that you continue thinking about the Chronicle as you come across something you think club members might be interested in. Just send me an email with your thoughts, article, whatever! Doesn't seem possible that there will only be 2 more issues for 2020.

And, if you are comfortable using a computer and would like to pick up editorship of The Chronicle, please let me know. I will be happy to help as much as you like. It's time for fresh ideas for inputs, and different structure. It has been a learning situation for me, which I have enjoyed. Even being retired I wanted to keep my computer skills current. This has been an excellent way to get to know our club members and be up to date with what's going on.

Thank You! Lynda



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## DID ~ U ~ KNOW

*by Facia Nearside*

The concept of making a simple economical car which anyone could afford has been a reoccurring theme in the automobile world. Few however have been as successful as Trojan. Founded by Leslie Hayward Hounsfield in 1910 a prototype was ready within three years only to be postponed by WWI. Following the war, the first cars were produced in Croydon, South London and shown at the 1922 London Motor Show.

Simplicity of design was carried to the extreme. The car was powered by a two-stroke four-cylinder engine with pistons working in pairs and sharing a common combustion chamber, an economical design later known as the split-single engine. This was coupled to a two-speed gearbox which used chain drive to the rear axle, and all wheels were fitted with solid rubber tyres to prevent punctures. To promote the cars' extreme economy the company adopted the slogan "Can you afford to walk?" They claimed it would cost more in shoe leather to walk 200 miles than to drive their car.



An agreement was reached with Leyland Motors to build both cars and vans and by 1928, 17,600 Trojans had been produced with the Trojan utility car selling for £125, the same as a Model T Ford. However, in the years leading up to WWII, sales of Trojan cars began to slide although demand for vans remained strong. Following the war only van production resumed.

From 1960-1965 Trojan built Heinkel bubble cars under license, calling them the Trojan 200. Then in 1962 Trojan also acquired the rights to build the Elva Courier which it produced until 1965. (DUK2020/8) This in turn led to manufacturing McLaren racing cars until production finally ceased in the early 1970s. The Trojan 200 was the last car to bear the Trojan name, although the company continued to exist as Trojan Limited until 1965. Trojan has come to be known as one of the most successful and unconventional light cars of all time!



**1962 Trojan 200**

## **BBB Webmaster Report – September 2020**

*August 25, 2020 Email to All from our BBB Website as follows. Please contact Jim directly if you have any interest.*

From: Jim O'Brien

Email Address: [obmg74@msn.com](mailto:obmg74@msn.com)

Subject: 1974-1/2 MGB and older rear brake parts

Message: Hi,

This is unconventional, I know but I am wondering if someone in your club would have interest in these parts.

Complete set of parts, including cylinder, springs, shoes and all hardware for one side of rear brakes. Also, rear axle seal, all parts new.

Also, a few misc. SU parts, gaskets, floats, etc.

I have a list of TRF part numbers and photos.

After 50 years of British car ownership, I'm moving on, and ran across these in the garage.

Just looking for a nominal price, say 50 bucks...

If I'm out of line sending you this, I apologize, just looking for a good home for them.

Hope your club is doing well, quite some time ago, I knew Tony DiTullio and Gordy and Bev Baggio.

Thanks,  
Jim O'Brien

(Sent via British Boots & Bonnets)

## **THE FIRST-RATE DRIVER**

***Quick to observe ... quick to act - from "The Etiquette of Motoring" 1997***

**Almost anybody can learn** the elementary part of motor driving, but few attain the perfection of competence which implies an acute sympathy with the vehicle being controlled.

**What is required is** a vision quick to observe, a mind quick to notice, hands quick to act, in essence the perfect ear and touch.

The first-rate driver of a motor-car anticipates every variation of the mechanism under his control, preventing, rather than waiting to correct its aberrations, foreseeing and avoiding difficulties of traffic rather than extracting himself from them!

The driver should note the hundred and one trifling incidents in the behavior of the motor-car that go to make up its life and idiosyncrasies.

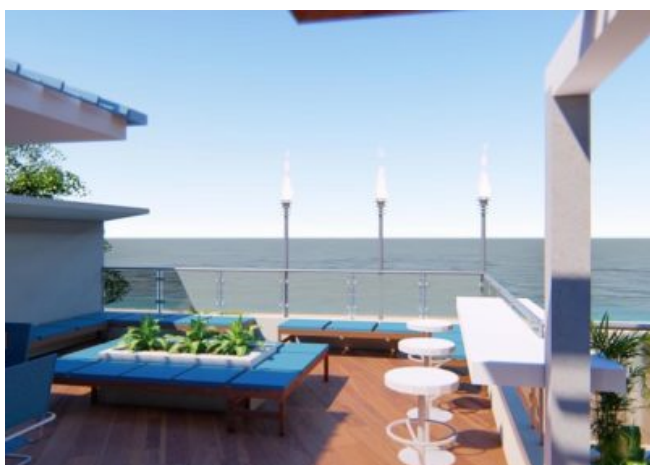
## UPDATE ON CLUB MEMBER, CURTIS KMIECEK.

*Jim and Lynda have been in contact with Curt as he transitions from Illinois to Jamaica. He ordered some BBB Regalia to take along with his 1975 Triumph Spitfire in his move to Negril. The article below (from their website, [blueskiesnegril.com](http://blueskiesnegril.com)) explains how Curt and wife Dana came to make this move. He said to feel free to check out their resort website and use any photos we wanted in the Chronicle. I hope he will send us a picture of his Spitfire down on a beach, or next to his plane when they get settled. For now enjoy a little Jamaican sunshine at their beautiful resort, Blue Skies.*

“We purchased this little piece of Heaven in May 2019, but it feels like we’ve always been here. “Blue Skies” is the quintessential skydiving greeting and salutation. It’s like the word “aloha” in Hawaii; it can be used both in greeting and in departure. It is both practical (yes, we want the skies of blue so we can jump, jump, jump) and spiritual. It is a sacred phrase, much like “Respect” and “One Love” in Jamaica.

The reason “Blue Skies” is significant to us is because Curt got hooked on skydiving in the military, when the Air Force decided to throw him out of airplanes during Special Operations’ missions. He has continued to participate in the sport as a hobby. After we met, Curt introduced Dana to skydiving and she fell in love with it (and him, too). Curt proposed to Dana skydiving, and the rest of our marriage has been an adventure every day, ever since.

One love,  
*Curt & Dana”*





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## Welcome to Sunshine Corner!!

Phyllis  
Beneditz



Hello Everyone,

Hope this summer is going well for most of you. I have found out about a couple of our members that are hurting. Bob Buckavekas had surgery in June and still not doing real well. Linda Gall had surgery in August and Polly Carter fell and hurt an ankle. Hopefully they are both doing better. Please keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers.

Bring a little sunshine wherever you go and be sure to smile with your eyes!!



## BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS CAR CLUB 2020 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

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Phyllis Beneditz  
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## CAR DETAILING CLOTHS COMPLEMENTS OF THE KLEMMMS

Lynda Vickery

If you haven't picked up your detailing cloth yet, Jim will have them available at the September Picnic in the Park, and will have a supply on hand at the September club meeting. Be sure to get one soon!

## MOTORING MATTERS

### *The 'Red Flag' Law...*

When motor cars were first imported to Britain, the 'Red Flag law (Locomotives Act of 1865) was still in force, and the cars were treated as traction engines - and as such had to be driven at a speed limit of four miles an hour, and be preceded by a man on foot carrying a red flag!



### *Exceeding the speed limit...*

Walter Arnold was charged on 28th January 1896 at Tonbridge with exceeding the 2mph speed limit at Paddock Wood. It was estimated that he was doing 8mph when stopped by a policeman on a bicycle after a five mile chase. He was fined one shilling.

...from "The Etiquette of Motoring" 1997



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**BBB REGALIA ONLINE**

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

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

BBB Grill Badge - \$30

BBB Hat/Lapel Pin - \$1

BBB visors - \$10 (1 left)

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 Embroid This (no charge)

Pick up at Club Meeting (no charge)\*

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

Jim Vickery

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



Next Meeting  
Wednesday, September 16 2020

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**