



Bits and Spares

For The British Motoring Enthusiast

Established in 1989

May 2007

Swap Meet 2007

Friday, April 13th was a cool, nasty, rainy day and not a good way to start the setup and preview day of the 12th annual British Car Swap Meet. Saturday the 14th "the big day" of the swap meet started out dreary, damp, and cold, but the show must go on rain or shine. The turnout was light for both sellers and buyers. By noon the weather was better and the club car display gave a very good representation of our club, thanks to Lon and Michelle Smith and the MG marque. Four cars were sold, considering there were only about 20 cars for sale that was pretty good. Still lots of parts changed hands and the club gained 4 new members. Judy Ross, as always, had great food concessions. Ron drove his Morgan plus 4 around Lake Corvallis to show that it runs and drives after 2 years of assembling it out of the boxes of parts he got it in. I can understand why some choose not to come to the swap meet, but those who came had a nice time. The day ended with good food and friends around the huge fire pit at Lake Corvallis



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Cookout at Cooks Landing

Saturday, May 12, 2007 the Austin Healey Marque is hosting a lunchtime cookout beginning at 11:00 am and continuing until the last ones leave. The pavilion has been reserved for the day!

Bring whatever you want to eat or drink. The barbeque pit will be fired up and the ice chest will have plenty of ice. I will have venison burger and hamburger, but I will grill anything that you bring and want cooked.

Cooks Landing is on the North side of the Arkansas River at Interstate 430. Take I-430 to the Maumelle/Crystal Hill Rd exit. Crystal Hill Road is also Hwy 100, so take Highway 100 East just a short distance east of the overpass and turn South into the entrance of Cook's Landing. We will be at the covered pavilion on the left as you enter the landing.

Bring whatever you want; fishing poles, car cleaning gear or just a big smile and an appetite.

We'll see you and your LBC and have a Great Time!!

Steve Jones, AH Marque Leader

Prez Sez

The year is really off to a flying start and the calendar is filling up also. It wasn't too many years ago that we only had one British car show that was close enough to attend now we have to pick and chose the which ones to go to because there are so many. Oh what a problem to have. No matter which one you chose you will have the opportunity to make new friends as well as catch up with the ones that you already have. This hobby has quite a diverse following and everyone has a story to tell so polish up the LBC and hit the road. You just never know who might be out there waiting to meet you.

See you on the road.

Charles

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'Bits & Spares'

is published the first Saturday after every monthly meeting. The meeting is normally the first Tuesday of each month. **Deadline** for articles and submissions is the day of the meeting.

LCYC Canoe Trip - Final Plans

The main group will be leaving McLeod's on Friday, May 18, 2007 at 4:30. We will drive about an hour to Clinton where we can stop for MickyD's or whatever gastronomical delights the town offers.

We'll need to leave no later than 6:15 or so as it will be about another 30 minutes or better to get to the Buffalo Outfitters. Those staying at the cabins will be in cabins 1, 2 & 3. The drive -in movie starts at dark. We can't learn what will be playing on Friday night until the Monday before. The Kenda Drive-in Theater (870) 448-2393 is operated by the same family who built it back in 1966 and is named after the owner's daughter.

Saturday brings the float trip on the Buffalo. The LCYC Canoe Team (or Armada as it is becoming to be known) is prepared for a delightful day taking in the natural beauty of Arkansas. Following the float trip we will head to Tracy's (& his neighbors) for a relaxing evening which promises to be filled with food & fun & friendship.

British Car Week

May 26 - June 3, 2007

Sponsored by ALL British Car Clubs

www.britishcarweek.org

This is the 'official' week all Americans in the United States should be driving their beloved British Cars. Get yours out on the road during this week!! Don't forget the Blytheville show on June 2nd!

Read 'Bits & Spares' online www.bmca.net



Secretaries Minutes

This month, we met at Western Sizzlin just down the highway from Dizzy's. Zack Ard, a new member with 4 MGB's, joined us, making 24 total in attendance. April's minutes were read and approved. Lisa read the treasurer's report with an ending balance of \$2968.11.

Ronnie McLeod reported that even with the nasty weather, everyone had a good time at the Swap meet. Attendance was down, only about 1/3 of what would be considered normal. Three cars were sold. BMCA acquired 3 new members; Jimmy Taylor (MGB) from Lonoke, Marty Davoren (Spitfire) from Camden, and Zack. Did I mention Zack has four MGB's? Judy Ross said the concession sales were down. We did end up with a profit of \$96.76. The evening even included the surprise entertainment of two exotic dancers. (You just had to be there...) The money collected went to the BMCA.

The following weekend, we went to Batesville for the annual Scottish festival. The weather couldn't have been any better. We met at McDonalds, left at 7 am, with 9 cars in line. Ronnie donned his kilt as always. This year, we had two more kilts to show off their knobby knees. They were Jim Peckham and Parris McCullah.

Bob Ross was happy to announce that Jim Peckham was able to float a loan for the remaining balance that was needed to order our new grill badges. He also thanked everyone who bought extra badges, and reminded them that the extras will be sold first on a rotating basis. The cost for the badges now is \$30. Hopefully, we will have them at our next meeting.

May marque event will be a cookout at Cooks Landing. Steve Jones has reserved the pavilion. The grill will be fired up and ready. He is bringing venison burger and hamburger, but will grill anything you want him to grill. Bring whatever you want to eat or drink. Bring your LBC and have a great time.

Contact Barbara or Gary Bolin if you're interest in going on the canoe trip. Some will be leaving at 4:30 Friday, the 18th, for supper and a drive-in movie. The canoe trip is Saturday am.

June 2nd, Blytheville, AR "The British are coming" Contact Bob Harris, Empire marque leader for more information. There will be a \$200 prize awarded for the Best British Car. There is a group leaving LCYC around noon. Contact Lon Smith for details.

June 16th Petit Jean Mtn. Same as last year, Friday and Saturday night at Joel and Nancy's. The motorhome will be going up the weekend before. Ronnie needs a count of cars entering. Michelle Smith, with help from others, finished and sent the MOTTA magazine article to the publisher along with pictures.

The 8th Annual GOBMC all British car and cycle blow-out will be July 27 - 29th in Carthage, Mo. You can register on line this year. Sept 15th -The Springdale Holiday Inn will be our sponsoring hotel for Fayetteville. The cost is \$79. Since the room rate is higher, the topic of acquiring the club's hospitality room was put forth and approved. Our collection jar will be bigger to help cover the extra cost. Wilma Newton volunteered to be the hostess.

The members were polled on their opinion concerning the meeting room and food at the Western Sizzlin. The room is reserved for next month, June. We will then decide if the BMCA will hold our meetings there permanently. Also it was motioned and approved to change the meeting time back to 7:30.

The tech talk was forgotten about, so we went onto the birthday's and anniversary's. Before I go any further, I need to apologize to Charlie Collins, I forgot to put his birthday in last issue. His special day was the 10th of April. Our May Birthday's are Ted Bland; 19th, Brad Cunningham; 29th, and the Newton's (me) have their anniversary on the 2nd, or the 5th. I can't remember??

Gots and Goofs - The Newton's have a straight 78 Spit complete with hardtop and overdrive for sale. Bill Watkins is selling his TR4, \$13,500. Ted Bland had a rattle in the left front shock. When he inquired, he found he had a bolt missing, and another one loose, out of the calipers. It seemed he had forgotten to lock his tabs to prevent this from happening. Skip Harris had a problem concerning his heart. Take care of yourself, Skip. He also said those of you that subscribe to the Classic Car Motorsports magazine, may see a picture of a car you may recognize.

The door prize, head lamp covers and a McLeod gift certificate was won by Judy Wheeler.

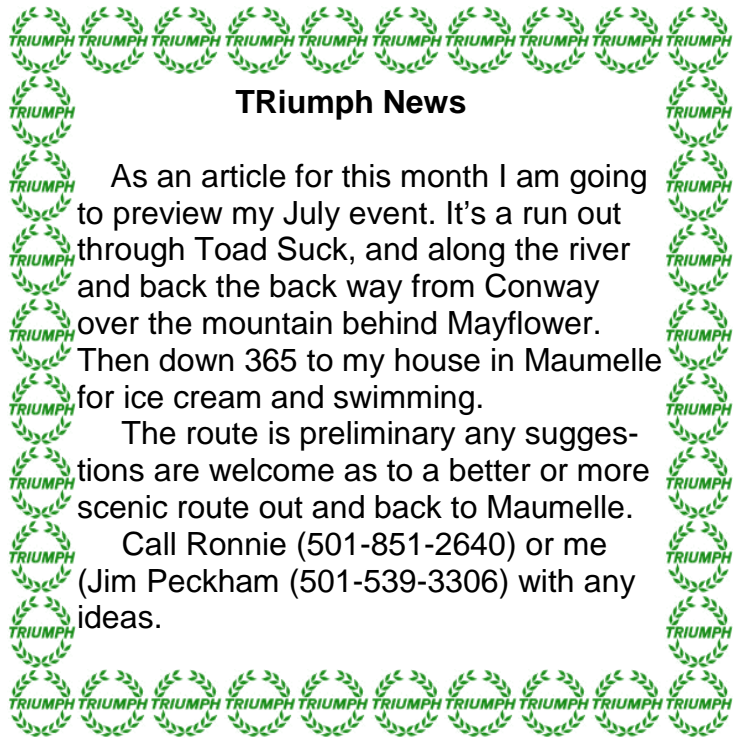
Official June Empire Marque Event

The official June BMCA marque event will be to attend the **Cars & Cycles Against Cancer** event in Blytheville, AR on June 2, 2007. This event is in conjunction with Relay for Life and all proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society. The event itself will be held at Walker Park in Blytheville. The car show is open to All cars, trucks and motorcycles. BMCA'er Barrett Harrison is contacting several British car clubs in the surrounding area to attend and is promoting this year's event as "The British Are Coming". There will be a special \$200 prize awarded to the Best British Car. In addition to the car show there will many events occurring at the park. There will be a Silent Auction, Early morning Dice Run for Cash Prizes, Magic Show for Kids of All Ages, Official USACi Audio Competition to name but a few.

Registration begins at 8:00 am and is \$15 per vehicle with plaques for the first 200 registered. There are lots of cool shade trees for displaying the cars and enjoying the day. Blytheville is a 3 hour drive from Little Rock. We will go through Newport then go Scenic Highway 14 east to Wilson, then north to Blytheville on Highway 61. There will be a group leaving on Friday to stay overnight before the show. Potentially we could have a group leave Little Rock around 4:30 am Saturday morning and make it to Blytheville in time to register. We can discuss the various options at the May meeting. Initially those who want to stay overnight either Friday, Saturday or both will need to make their hotel reservations as soon as possible. There are several options for secure parking on Friday night for those in need. The show is supposed to last most of the day. For those not staying Saturday night a group could leave around 5'ish and be back to Little Rock before bedtime.

Barrett Harrison has offered his home to some BMCA'ers if they wish to stay with him, until he's out of space :-} You can contact him at barrett1@sbcglobal.net or you can contact the Holiday Inn hotel at 1-870-763-5800 where 10 rooms are being held in Barrett Harrison's name. There are King or Double Bed rooms for up to 4 people for \$88.50 plus tax. There are also other hotels in the area with special rates for attendees. Either way, if you plan on staying over you'll want to get your reservations made now. Barrett is planning a gathering for all BMCA'ers present either Friday or Saturday night. Contact Bob Harris to let him know which night you'll be there.

For more information, contact Bob Harris Empire Marque Leader rh@windsordoor.com, or Lon Smith 650-0477. This sounds like a fun event and is for a very worthy cause. Make your plans now to attend and help Barry promote the best sports cars (and best British Car club) around whilst benefiting the American Cancer Society!



TRiumph News

As an article for this month I am going to preview my July event. It's a run out through Toad Suck, and along the river and back the back way from Conway over the mountain behind Mayflower. Then down 365 to my house in Maumelle for ice cream and swimming.

The route is preliminary any suggestions are welcome as to a better or more scenic route out and back to Maumelle.

Call Ronnie (501-851-2640) or me (Jim Peckham (501-539-3306) with any ideas.

Off. Ph. 870-534-2579
email: fess@seark.net

Fax (870) 534-5328

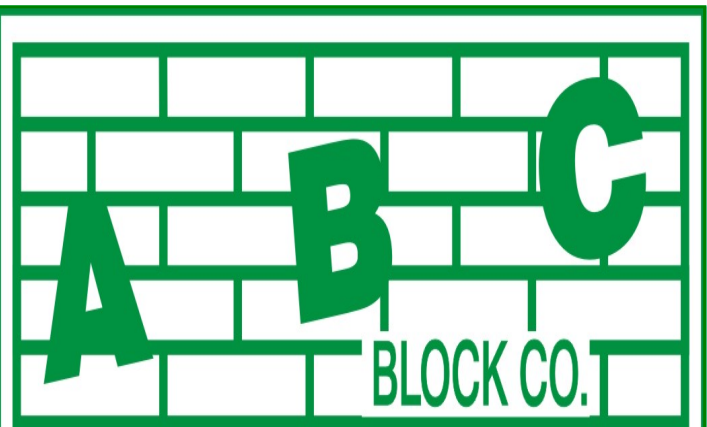
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MG Marque News



The BMCA car display held in conjunction with the Swap Meet was attended by 11 British cars. Many thanks to all who came out and participated. The next MG marque event is in August and we're planning a Fox and Hound run ending up at a favorite location (with a swimming pool for starters!) to gather for fun, food and frolicking.

Some MG history for all you enthusiasts out there...

Birth of the Octagonal Badge

MG STANDS for Morris Garages, which was the Oxford distributor for Morris cars; co-incidentally, it was also owned by William Morris, later Lord Nuffield. When Cecil Kimber became its general manager in 1922, the firm started modifying standard Morris Cowleys, lowering the chassis and fitting more sporting bodywork.

By 1924, Morris Garages was advertising the "MG Special four-seater Sports", and had incorporated the famous octagonal badge into the copy. Old Number One was the first MG sports car, but it was the 48th body built for Morris Garages by one firm, Carbodies, since 1924.

Morris Garages outgrew its home three times before moving to Abingdon in 1929, by which time it had been renamed the MG Car Company. During the early 1930s, MG became synonymous with the term "sports car", and its road cars were promoted by successful racing forays. Then, for fiscal reasons, Morris sold his private companies, including MG, to Morris Motors in 1935.

Purists argue that MG was never the same again. There was less variety in the products, racing activities were limited, and placing the MG badge on BMC saloons such as the Morris Oxford and 1300 would have been anathema to Kimber. Realists would point out that even after Kimber's death in 1945, fine, affordable sports cars such as the TC, MGA, Midget and MGB continued to be built, and it was only British Leyland's appalling management that sullied a great name in the 1970s.

Car production was stopped at Abingdon in 1980. From 1982 to 1990, the MG name was applied to re-badged and tuned Maestros, Montegos and Metros, but MG enthusiasts were cheered by 1992's RV8 and have more to celebrate with the introduction of the mid-engined MGF, which draws heavily on the corporate parts bin.



Petit Jean Swap Meet, Car Show and BMCA Gathering

Each year June brings the renowned Petit Jean adventure. This year, the car show is June 16th. Even if you don't want to run your car through judging you can show it, as long as it's an antique and you are a MOTAA member. Even if you don't show a car, the swap meet / crafts fair and BMCA camaraderie makes this an annual event not to miss.

There will be a group of volunteers leaving McLeod's at 7:00 (ish) AM on Sunday June 10th to help MOTAA mark the swap meet spaces on the mountain top (like we did last year). We will also establish the motor home and the McLeod/BMCA swap meet area on the mountain that day. On the following Friday, June 15th a group will be leaving McLeod's to take the annual trek up the mountain. Most will camp out, in their own tents, at Joel and Nancy Taylor's estate on Petit Jean. A few have rooms reserved on the mountain (normally must be done at least 1 year in advance!). There will be gatherings at Joel & Nancy Taylor's both Friday and Saturday evenings (June 15 & 16). Contact Ron McLeod at 851-2640 for more information. (The next newsletter, published June 9th will have all the details about the trek on Friday June 15th.)



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The weekend after the swap meet is the Ozark Scottish Festival. The day was excellent, 80 degrees and sunny. There were five British cars at McDonalds at McCain in North Little Rock. Three lads in their kilts, and their entourage, headed north in search of the wale of bagpipes and the taste of haggis. At the Searcy McDonalds we picked up two more British cars and headed up to Lyons College. We got to the festival about 9:00 with nine little British cars and parked in our reserved parking. Our kilted lads Ronnie McLeod, Jim Peckham, and Parris McCullah looked right at home, especially in the parade of clans. The Scottish foods (shepherd pies, scones and, of course, haggis), the sound of bag pipes, fiddles, flutes....traditional and Celtic rock all made for a very different and enjoyable weekend of all things Scottish.



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**MOTAA REGISTRATION APPLICATION
ANNUAL AUTO FAIR & SWAP MEET
8 JONES LANE
MORRILTON, AR 72110**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	BODY STYLE	CLASS	SENIOR
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Minimum Point Requirements to Win Trophy:

Senior: - 90 Points First Place: - 80 Points Second: - 70 Points Third: - 60 Points

NO STREET MACHINES WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR REGISTRATION

HAS YOUR VEHICLE BEEN MODIFIED _____ YES _____ NO

MINOR SAFETY MODIFICATIONS ALLOWED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE HEAD JUDGE

REGISTRATION FEES:

Antique Car \$15.00	\$ _____
Second Car \$10.00	\$ _____
MOTAA Membership Dues @ \$20.00	\$ _____
Saturday Night Banquet _____ @ \$18.00	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

I hereby release MOTAA And The Museum of Automobiles, Inc. and all of its members from any and all liability.

MOTAA MEMBER NO. _____ INSURANCE CARRIER _____

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

Do you have e-mail?

We are in the process of putting together a master BMCA group e-mail list for notification purposes. If you have e-mail, please send a quick e-mail to bmcanewsletter@gmail.com for inclusion in this list.

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BMCA Monthly Meeting

New Meeting Time - New Meeting Place *(well, same as May mtg.)*

The British Motoring Club of Arkansas meets the first Tuesday of each month. The June 5 meeting will be at **Western Sizzlin** in Benton, near Wal-Mart off I-30, at **7:30 PM**. A variety of food, lots of parking and good company. Come a little early to enjoy a meal, stay a little late to kick the tyres of all the British cars in the parking lot.

Calendar of Events

Sat May 12 - Tulsa Jag Club presents All British Car Show at Sand Springs, OK

May 18-19 - LCYC Drive-in and Canoe Trip - Gary or Barbara Bolin for more info. 501-225-1555

Sat June 2 - Blytheville Car & Cycles Against Cancer - "The British are Coming" See page 4 for all the details.

Sat June 9th - The Heartland MG Regional, Overland Park, KS call 913-262-3010 for more info.

Fri-Sun June 14-16 Petit Jean Mountain Swap Meet and Car show - See info pg. 5

Sun June 16 - Planes, Trains and Autos Arkansas Air Museum grounds at Drake Field in South Fayetteville Call Marsha Ralston 479-841-1983 cell or 479-527-7020 work.

July ?? - Triumph Summer Run, Ice Cream Social and Swimming Party - see page 4

Sun Aug ?? - MG Fox & Hound Run - Stay tuned for more details

Sept 15 - 2007 Brits in the Ozarks. Make your plans now - registration form inside.

Do you know of an upcoming event? Send the information to bmcanewsletter@gmail.com



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