



Bits and Spares

For The British Motoring Enthusiast

Established in 1989

November 2007

BMCA Celebrates the Life of a Cherished Member

Friday, November 2, 2007, BMCA lost a dearly loved member. Cookie Peckham went to be with her Lord due to complications of ALS. She is survived by her loving husband, Jim Peckham; mother, Muriel Diescher, of Maumelle, AR; two brothers and a host of nieces, nephews and many, many friends. As she will be greatly missed by all BMCA'ers, her spirit will live with us forever.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at First Christian Church of Maumelle. Video can be viewed at <http://www.mediafire.com/?631c2mzuj11>. Another memorial service was held in New York where she grew up, video available at <http://www.mediafire.com/?4jjgyqzbm9n>. The online guest book is at www.rollerfuneralhomes.com/chenal

The Peckham/Diescher clan is a very special part of the BMCA. Cookie always had a smile and special story for everyone. We thank Cookie for her extraordinary contributions to each of our lives, she will be deeply missed!

Cookie and Dreams

When Cookie left us November 2, she left us with a momentous legacy and a tough act to follow. I didn't know Cookie much before she received the diagnoses that she had ALS. But I have known her, her spirit and her heart since. Once she and Jim got there minds and hearts around it, she set out determine to live each day with as much as she could fit into it. Jim, her mom, family and friends were there every step of the way making all of her final dreams possible.

Her biggest dream seemed to be to do everything she could to find a cure for ALS. She visited government officials and took part in numerous MDA and ALS functions. One of the last notes I received from her included these words:

"Yesterday I did the Jerry Lewis Telethon here in Little Rock, I was on TV once again. What a wonderful day it was. Mom, Jason and Brandy were right next to me answering the phones. We collected enough money to send 32 kids to camp this year. This puts a big smile on my face for sure."

Wrapped around this note were a few sentences saying how tired she was. But it didn't hold her back.

Her other dream was to win the Frequent Cruiser of the Year award. She returned from one such trip the day before she went into the hospital. She lived every day she was given doing something positive.

Keep Cookie's dreams alive in your life. Set your dreams. Act on them. Do something positive everyday! And remember Cookie and smile.

by Barbara Anne Bolin



It is hard for me to put into words how much your presence, your prayers, and words of encouragement has helped me and the family through these weeks. The visits of support, while Cookie was in the hospital were very much appreciated and all the work that went into the meals at the gatherings. Cookie sure did enjoy the activities and friendship of the car club. Thank you all for being there during this difficult time. Jim Peckham

Prez Sez

I have been trying to write this note for a couple of days now but I have not been able to concentrate on it. As most, if not all, of you know by now Cookie Peckham passed away last Friday. I will always remember her smiling face and cheery personality and her zest for life. She will be sorely missed but I think she would want us to celebrate her life and the time that we spent together and to carry on in the BMCA way that she so enjoyed.

This month the Triumph marque has an over night trip planned to go to Texarkana with several side trips to visit some of our members that are not able to come to many of our events. This should be an interesting trip as it is through a part of the state that most of our group does not typically drive through. So dust off the LBC and get out and enjoy the fall weather.

See you on the road.

Charles

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BMCA Board Meeting Minutes - November 2007

Call to order was promptly at 4:00 pm. Thanks to Ronnie for starting my minutes for me. When I arrived, the motion on the table was raising the membership dues from \$20 (present) to \$25. Further discussion changed the membership dues to \$30, because the associate dues must be ½ of the members. This is to cover the cost of the newsletter. But if we had to pay for our own publishing of the newsletter, inflation would get us seriously. This would make us more self-sufficient as a club, without counting on a distinct few that has helped us out in the past. (I would like to take this time to give many thanks to Jim Peckham and Ronnie McLeod and their copying machines for helping us out.) A motion to extend the 3 years for 2 paid years for the 2008 dues at the new prices were brought to the table. In the discussion, it was voted: If the cost of the dues don't pass, we will omit the 3 for 2 this next year. So for clarification...if the raising of the dues passes, we will run a 3 for 2 in 2008. We have \$125 in an envelope for the Petit Jean Museum. A motion was brought forth to increase this amount to \$200 donation, and still make the annual charity to the Union Rescue. The Petit Jean donation is a one time donation, it may not necessarily be repeated next year. We will hold onto the monies until after the November run to see if anymore \$ is added, then Lisa will write the check and get it in the mail before the end of the year. A motion was added for the club to add an additional \$50 in the BMCA name to go along with the monies collected for Petit Jean. The meeting adjourned at 4:54 pm.

'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.

Secretaries Minutes - November 6, 2007

Hello again, friends. Everyone that adventured out, were met with a blank ballot and pen. As they were collected, they were handed over to the Smith's to tally. Thanks to Lon and Michelle for their time. We ended up with 36 members attending. We had 2 new couples to attend: Sam & Raymond Mitchell with a '74 Triumph TR6, and Marlena & Ken Grunewald with a '68 MGB. Glad to have you join us in our fun. The minutes for the month of October were passed out, read, and approved. Lisa, with a big smile on her face, and not a remorseful bone in her body, read her last monthly treasurer report, with an ending balance of \$2324.79. Enjoy your free time.

Jim Wheeler told his version of the Memphis Car Show, being he was the only one who went. In his opinion, the Memphis car show is definitely on the rebound and was better than the ones in the past. The 65 - 75 cars were parked back in front of the Youth home and the show was extremely well run. The banquet at the Italian restaurant was fantastic.

Judy Ross urged everyone to get their Christmas Party tickets soon. The adult ticket cost is \$20 and \$12 for children 4-12, during November, and will go up again the first of December. She is still asking for door prize donations. Michael Ross is working on the CD to run as the slide presentation. If you have any pictures that you would like to pass along, let him know.

A motion was brought forth to raise the membership dues to \$30 from \$25. The associate dues being one half of the member's would have to be increased to \$15. This is to allow the club to be more self-sufficient with the postage for the monthly newsletter. This motion was passed. There was a motion put on the table, a discussion followed, which was passed to give a one time donation to Petit Jean. This was to be made up from monies collected since Fayetteville, and \$50 extra from BMCA club itself. . The third motion to be approved and passed was to donate the budgeted \$300 to our charity, The Union Rescue Mission. A motion was put forth and passed for the BMCA, as a club, to donate \$50 to ALS, as requested by the Peckham's instead of flowers for our beloved and dearly departed Cookie Peckham. Jim also requested that all club members to attend her funeral to please wear their BMCA shirt and drive their LBC. There would be a police escort back to the club house afterwards.

The run for November is trip to Texarkana, TX. We will leave the commuter parking lot at 9 am on the 10th. First stop, Fordyce, at the Klappenbach bakery. We will venture on down to Lewisville, to Brenda's mother's house. Moe and Jeanine will meet us there. We will have supper at 4:30 at West Shore Steak and Fish House. Rooms are at the Holiday Inn Holidome . Coffee and cake will be at Moe's and Jeannine after checking into the rooms.

The last motion to be discussed and passed was to keep our monthly meeting at the Western Sizzlin, same time- same place. Then January meeting is falling on the first of January. It was recommended and passed to move the January's meeting to the 8th. Mark the change on your calendar. February's meeting will go back to the first Tuesday of the month.

After the meeting, the tally was read. Congratulations to our new officers- Brenda Collins, our 2008 President. Along **her** side, another female, Barbara Buech, our new Vice-President. I, Wilma Newton, volunteered for another year as Secretary. Rebecca Pranther will take Lisa's place as our new Treasurer. Our new marquee leaders are: Austin Healey – Jack Brashear; Empire – Gary, Barbara and Keeper Bolin; MG Marquee – Zack Ard; and the Triumph Marquee – Parris McCullah. Jim Stanhope will be our new Historian, Michael Ross remains our Membership Chairman, and Michelle and Lon continue as our Newsletter Editors.

Tech Talk: Charles Hutchison explained that some of our LBC's unobtainable parts may be unexpectedly found by looking on the internet being hidden as American made parts. For example, a TR8 heater valve being made of unobtainium in the British world was found on the internet in disguised as a '66 Chrysler Imperial heater valve repair kit. Yes, they now have heat, and their feet are not wet.

Birthdays: Jim Higgason; 16th- Gary Bolin; 22nd. Keeper and Barbara Bolin's anniversary of 8 years is also the 22nd.

Gots & Goofs: Barbara Bolin starts a new job on the 19th. Zack Ard did a serious goof, running over bad railroad tracks tore off his low hanging exhaust and cracked his manifold.

BMCA Elects New Officers & Marque Leaders for 2008

The campaigning was fierce, the voters many, with some of the positions running neck & neck. Could BMCA's results predict the direction of the national elections next year!?! Many THANKS to all who had the where-with-all to volunteer & run for an office!! It has been a few years since BMCA has had a choice for each & every position. Congratulations to:

2008 Officers

President	Brenda Collins
Vice President	Barbara Beuch
Secretary	Wilma Newton
Treasurer	Rebecca Pranter

Marque Leaders

AH Marque	Jack Brashear
Empire Marque	Gary, Barbara & Keeper Bolin
MG Marque	Zack Ard
TR Marque	Parris McCullah

Volunteer Positions

Historian	Shannon & Jim Stanhope
Membership	Michael Ross
Newsletter	Michelle & Lon Smith

2008 promises to be another year full of wonderful BMCA family adventures you won't want to miss.

Did you know?

Driving your Little British Car out & about is a public service! Did you ever notice people pulling over or stopping what they are doing to watch you drive by? Did you ever notice a big smile on someone's face as you drive by? Do you see the glimmer in a child's eye when they look at your little car? Do the public a service and drive your LBC today!

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True BMCA Spirit
(Marque Leaders Make Note!!!)

I recently read in the newsletter your request for more people to step and give of their time toward club activities. As you know, I'm 3 hours away from you guys, so for that reason alone I might not ever be able to attend a regular club meeting which means it wouldn't make any sense for me to try to serve as an elected member of the club or for that matter a Marque Leader. I will promise to do this. I will host, organize, plan two events each year. One will always be the first weekend of June here in Blytheville. Cars and Cycles AGAINST Cancer. Those of you that made it last June know we raised over 14K for the American Cancer Society and we think our show will only get bigger and better. Since I'm soooooo far away I will also put together an event each year in Hot Springs. Ill let you good people decide the month and day for that one. You all like HS and it will be a nice little drive for you guys in those great little cars. Other than that I really do hope to get to attend more club outings and meet more people. While it might more sense for me to be a member of the Memphis Club, I just can't not be part of the one with Arkansas in its name. Let me know what I can do.

Barrett Harrison

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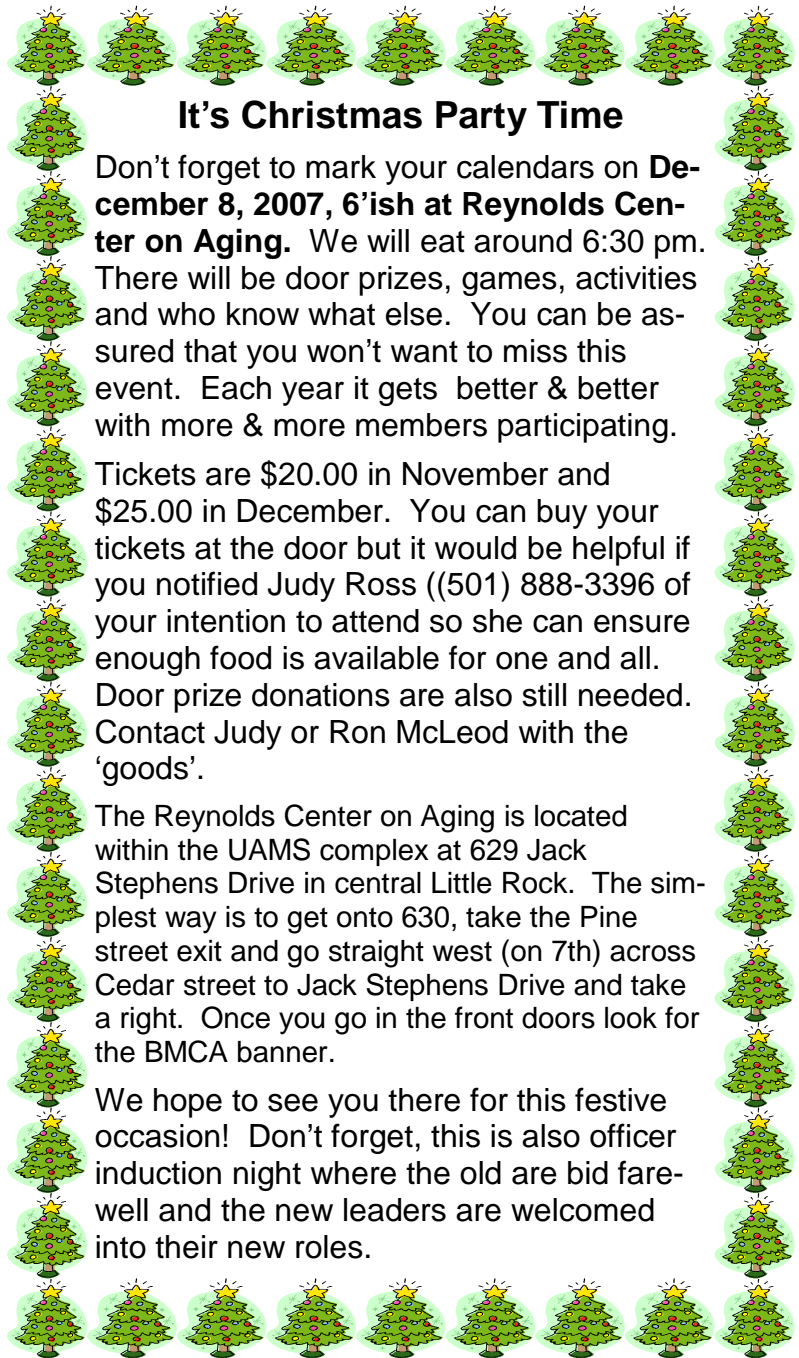
Check it out. Go to this web address and click on the THVideo link. Our very own Barbara Anne is a part of the feature!
<http://www.todaysthv.com/news/news.aspx?storyid=56064&provider=top>

October Empire Marque Event Recap

Oct, 5th & 6th the Annual Memphis Eurofest was held as planned. Not many from our club attended. A few went over as I was told. My Dad was in ICU so I didn't get to go over as I had planned. Gary Bolin & John Peckham took some nice pictures.

As probably most of you know by now this last week we lost a great gal in our club. I will always remember Cookie Peckham as always happy & pleasant, Always a smile. I'm going to miss her. Remember Jim & his family. You know they are hurting. They are a great bunch of people to know.

Bob Harris - Empire Marque.



It's Christmas Party Time

Don't forget to mark your calendars on **December 8, 2007, 6'ish at Reynolds Center on Aging.** We will eat around 6:30 pm. There will be door prizes, games, activities and who know what else. You can be assured that you won't want to miss this event. Each year it gets better & better with more & more members participating.

Tickets are \$20.00 in November and \$25.00 in December. You can buy your tickets at the door but it would be helpful if you notified Judy Ross ((501) 888-3396 of your intention to attend so she can ensure enough food is available for one and all. Door prize donations are also still needed. Contact Judy or Ron McLeod with the 'goods'.

The Reynolds Center on Aging is located within the UAMS complex at 629 Jack Stephens Drive in central Little Rock. The simplest way is to get onto 630, take the Pine street exit and go straight west (on 7th) across Cedar street to Jack Stephens Drive and take a right. Once you go in the front doors look for the BMCA banner.

We hope to see you there for this festive occasion! Don't forget, this is also officer induction night where the old are bid farewell and the new leaders are welcomed into their new roles.

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Your Opinion Matters

In today's modern world, there are some who wish to have their news available electronically instead of by the printed paper method. The newsletter staff is looking for your input on meeting your individual needs. Beginning in January we will offer an option for you to receive your newsletter electronically via e-mail in a PDF format if there is an interest. If you opt for an electronic copy of the newsletter, we will not print and mail a paper newsletter to you. We also send out club related reminders and notices from time to time to all e-mail's we have on file. If you wish to be on the electronic newsletter delivery list and/or the e-mail reminder list, or if you have not received a BMCA information e-mail in the recent past, send your e-mail address to bmcanewsletter@gmail.com.

Lake Corvallis Christmas Party

Saturday, December 15, 2007 from 2:00 pm ('ish) til ???

The menu theme this year is "Pot Luck Soups, Chili's and other bowl type" foods. Bring your favourite specialty that uses a spoon to be eaten. Or, if you prefer, deserts and/or appetizers are always a welcome addition at any LCYC event.

We'll begin the festivities around 2:00 pm. Since this is a drop-in type event, come anytime throughout the afternoon and/or evening to partake in the Christmas Spirit which will be felt throughout the Lake Corvallis region. Hope to see you there!!

Happy Holidays

The Coolest Thing in January

The 2008 BMCA POLAR BEAR RUN is Saturday January 26 and Sunday January 27, 2008.

Dress in a "Winter Theme Costume", Drive to Hot Springs with your "Top Down" and take a "Polar Plunge". Is this not Cool or What???.... I Dare You!! I Double-Dog Dare You!!!

Spend the night at the Historic Arlington Hotel on the 7th floor (make your reservations now 1.501.623.7771, tell them you are with the BMCA) & dine at the BrauHaus German Restaurant

What is your reason NOT to do this:

- It's too cold and I am a Woos
- I need to stay home and watch football on TV
- My British car is broke and I need to stay home and fix it (Not a good one - drive your 'other' car!!!)
- I have a Doctor's Excuse (President Must see this excuse)
- This is childish and I am too sophisticated to do this

Oh, did I mention the Arlington "Hot Tub"?

Remember - What happens in Hot Springs, Stays in Hot Springs!! (Yeah, Right)

Ronnie McLeod



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BMCA Cruises SE Arkansas & Texarkana, TX

Saturday, November 10th, 2007 was a cool, crisp very sunny morning where 19 hearty souls met at the Dixon Rd. parking lot (across from the commuter lot - it was full...) with their British cars. 5 TR's, 3 MG's, 1 Frogeye, 1 Mini and one 'other' vehicle coursed onto Hwy 530 bound for Texarkana, TX by way of For-
dyce for the last group journey of 2007.

By mid-morning we arrived at the Klappenbach Bakery to meet the world famous baker, Norm Klappenbach, whose '79 MG Midget greeted us as we arrived. We also found Wilma and Jim with 'Six Bits' waiting. Norm had 'out of the oven' fresh bagels and coffee for us, his treat. Thank you Norm!! We had lunch and bought pastries and bread for the trip to Texas. We all parked our cars in front of the bakery for our first photo opportunity, photos with Norm at the Bakery.

Then it was on to Camden to visit with Robert Horton, our car club member who owns Horton's Alignment Shop in Camden. After taking the scenic route and a few phone calls, we finally found him waiting for us on Hwy 79 in his red AH 3000.

On the road again to answer the question ... Where IS Waldo??? Well, we found Waldo just west of McNeil, AR and we got pictures to prove it J We continued on west down Hwy 82 to Lewisville, AR and the home of Helen Hall (our club president elects (Brenda Collins) mother). There we relaxed, refreshed, and visited. The Lewisville news came and took pictures of the 11 LBC's parked around Nannie Helen's home. We were joined by Moe & Jeannine Bokaie in the '69 Right Hand Drive Mini giving us a total of 12 British cars partaking in this adventure. Brenda's nieces came by and a group of 34 convoyed to the West Shore Fish House in Garland, AR for a great dinner, complete with extra entertainment via Brenda's relatives. One of the best ones, a Garage Sale which wasn't, had the entire room laughing and creating yet another memorable BMCA moment.

By now it was dark and Moe & Jeannine led us into Texarkana to check in at the Holidome at the Arkansas/Texas state line (Texas side). Those who were not ready to call it a night followed Moe back to their home to see his 18 or so cars. Mostly all British and housed in a garage each and everyone of us envied.

Mother wanted me to thank everyone for including her in our Rally to Texarkana. She really enjoyed all of us being at her house. Brenda Collins



Then it was back to the hotel where we all tucked in thinking about all the fun we'd had that day. The next morning breakfast was at IHop and then back to Moe & Jeannine's for one last visit before the trip back home to the Little Rock area via Hwy 67. This was a most pleasurable event. Many thanks to the planners for this BMCA adventure!!

Reminder - Dues are Due

Your 2008 BMCA Dues are due between now and February 1, 2008. Don't forget to include this in your budget plans. \$30.00 for Primary and \$15.00 for an associate member is the current rate. But, this year only you can get in on the 3 for 2 deal; 3 years for the price of 2. If you do the math, this means it's the same as the 2007 dues which were \$20.00/\$10.00.

**BMCA Monthly Meeting
Tuesday January 8, 2008**

******* No Meeting in December *******

The monthly meeting is held at **Western Sizzlin** in Benton, near Wal-Mart off I-30 beginning at **7:30 PM**. Bring the family, there is a variety of reasonably priced food, plenty of space in the meeting room, lots of parking & good company. Come a little early and enjoy a meal, stay a little late to kick the tyres on the British cars in the parking lot & visit with fellow BMCA'ers.

Calendar of Events

Sat Dec 8 - BMCA Christmas Party - Marque your calendar now!!! See pg 2 for info.

Sat Dec 15 - Lake Corvallis Holiday Celebration - see pg 6

Sat/Sun Jan 26/27 - BMCA Polar Bear Run - Winter Theme Costumes - see pg. 6

April 11-12-13, 2008 - Silver Springs, Florida -GOF XLII 2008 www.britishcarclub.net

May 31 - June 8 - British Car Week - Plan on driving your LBC during this week

Sat June 7 - Blytheville Cars & Cycles Against Cancer - Marque your calendars now!

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



British Motoring Club of Arkansas
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*Happy
Holidays*

