



Bits and Spares

For The British Motoring Enthusiast

Established in 1989

February 2011



February 2011 Prez Sez

January flew by, I turned round and blinked and it was gone. Unfortunately the winter weather has carried over into February. I didn't want to believe the "Old Guys" that talked about how the brutal summer we had would be mirrored by a severe winter. In truth I can't really say if this winter is, or has been any worse than the last few, but I know I'm not really caring much for the recent, and expected, onslaught of snow. Makes it hard for me to get motivated to go outside and do the things that need to be done to by MGBGT. I'd rather sit inside and complain about the weather.

January was a busy month, loaded with BMCA events. The Monthly meeting was fairly well attended when you take into account it started at the same time as the Sugar Bowl. The following weekend was the Annual Polar Bear Run, which had a good turn out of cars but not so many bathers as years gone by. Four hardy individuals did take the plunge including the Peckham brothers, "Admiral" McLeod wearing the cutest little white tutu, plus one newbie, Ron Kew. I'm happy to report all four survived the plunge with no reported cases of shock. The following weekend the Annual Board Meeting was held and all newly seated office holders were present and contributed to the meeting.

During the February meeting the minutes of the Board Meeting were discussed and votes to adopt the proposed budget, changes in the cost of Name Tags, establishment of a memorial fund, and procedures for billing for advertising in the Club Newsletter were presented to the membership for approval. Each motion carried by voice vote. A motion to establish a BMCA Group page on Facebook was presented and opened for discussion, after a period of discussion the motion was tabled to allow membership to consider the options and to give an ad hoc membership committee time to review options and consider what standards/guidelines, if any, should be drawn up related to such a page.

The last weekend of this month, the Empire Marque is sponsoring a run up through the Ozarks to visit Karston and Cindy's restoration shop outside Yellville. Overnight lodging is available for those interested in staying over night with a dinner and breakfast planned. . Contact Jim Clark for information concerning lodging options. Other upcoming events include a run up Wye Mountain to the Daffodil Fields in March, The Scottish Festival and the BMCA Swap Meet in April, and a go-cart grand prix rally being planned for May.

I hope the weather improves over the next two weeks and that the ground hog was right about an early spring.

Everybody be safe and try and stay warm until Spring final breaks! Exercise those cars, but keep the shiny side up.

Brad



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'Bits & Spares'

is usually published the first Saturday after every monthly meeting.

Deadline for articles and submissions is the day after the monthly meeting. (or anytime B/4!)

The 2011 BMCA Roster will be printed soon. If you know of changes that need to be made, such as your address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.please contact: membership@bmca.net so changes can be made before the new roster is printed.

Secretary's Minutes February 1, 2011

Mr. Prez made the call to order for the meeting to start. He welcomed our members and guests. It was nice to see Wayne Ritchie and Joe Cooper. The November's minutes were read, accepted and passed.

Mr. Wheeler read the detailed budget both for the month of November, followed by for the budget for the whole year 2010. Sparing time, a motion was made to waive the reading of the Board Meeting's minutes. We reviewed and accepted the Calendar of Events. We reviewed and accepted the Schedule of meetings. After reviewing the budget, a motion was made to accept the 2011 budget. The board recommended for the price of the BMCA name tags to increase to \$7.00 to cover cost and shipping charges. This motion was accepted. Our treasurer noticed that there are no receipts for personal advertising in the newsletter. The Board made a motion that the Treasurer would prepare and send invoices and inform the Newsletter Editor when fees have been collected, authorizing placement of ads. The Board accepted a motion to form a committee to explore options on ways to increase our membership. Jim Wheeler, Bert Pranter, and Brad Beuch volunteered to head this committee. A motion has been brought to the attention of the board concerning the possibility of starting a Club page on Facebook. This motioned has been tabled for a later date.

Mr. and Mrs. McCullough have generously offered to take pictures of us with or without our LBC's. Check with them concerning prices and appointment times. Jim Clark, Empire Marque Rally, is on the 26th of Feb. Look for his article elsewhere in the newsletter. The Hutchinson's are planning a trip to Wye Mountain on the 13th of March. April 9th will be the MG Marque Rally, and is the trip to Batesville, Dwayne Dwyer did his tech talk on taking apart and rebuilding his Midget. Wayne Ritchie invited everyone to his house for the Super Bowl. Bob and Judy Ross are having an Anniversary on the 16th of Feb.

Mr. and Mrs. Brad Cunningham are having their 48th anniversary on the 17th.

Dianne McCullough got the door prize and chose a 6 in 1 screwdriver.

BMCA BOARD MEETING January 15, 2011

The Annual Board of Directors Meeting for the British Motoring Club of Arkansas, Inc. was Jan 15th at 4:00, at the LCYC meeting room. The meeting was called in accordance with the BMCA Bylaws as required in Article IV Section 2 with advanced notice given to all newly elected officers and general membership by mail and announced during the presentations at the BMCA December 2010 Meeting (Christmas Party).

Roll call was done by the secretary, with everyone in attendance. The purpose of this meeting is to set the Calendar of Events and the Budget for the Club for the 2011 calendar year. The calendar of events includes the Month, Proposed Event, Event Marque Responsible, and the Meeting Tech Talk Marque Responsibility.

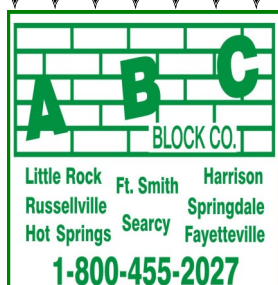
Old Business: The chair is not aware of any old business to discuss at this time.

Scheduled meetings will still be at the Western Sizzling, the 1st Tuesday of the month. Meeting are scheduled to start at 7:30 PM. It is understood that the meeting space has been reserved for the 2011 calendar year by the outgoing President.

The proposed BMCA Calendar of Events provided to the attendees included the Month, Proposed Event, Event Marque Responsible, and the Meeting Tech Talk Responsibility. The Motion to accept the Calendar of Events was Accepted and passed.

The Treasurer went over the 2010 itemized budget. He then went over the proposed 2011 itemized budget, asking for recommendations of change. All recommended changes were discussed in open forum. The changes would not go into effect until the Club members passed such changes at the next regular meeting. The motion to adjourn was accepted and passed.

Wilma Newton, BMCA Secretary

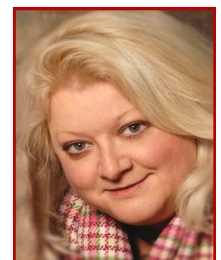


THE DEEP CREEK PLUNGE FEST 2011

“The Polar Bear Plunge is not for the faint of heart and can definitely be considered an extreme sport.” The best way to think of it is as a bucket list for “plungers” whether they are veterans or first timers!! Our event “allows” people of all ages and abilities to do something wild and crazy to shake off the “winter blues” and of course.....turn BLUE.

Those people too chicken to plunge can dress up in costumes for fun in support of the jumpers. The adventure began at the Wal-Mart on Hwy 10 where we joined WW1 Fighter Pilot, the “Red Baron” with curly mustache and all. Great job John Peckham! Cool biker chick Cindy Piefremment was sure to keep ALL engines roaring on this Hot Springs drive and if you were lucky, she also designed great tattoo’s anywhere you dared to bare! Get it? Polar Bear Dare, thank you. Wilma and Jim Newton dressed up as a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. What a tasty way to come as a couple costume! Navy Admiral, Ronnie McLeod made everyone snap to attention as he sported a crisp black rim and gold rope Navy cap, sunglasses, black jacket and wait....what’s up with the Birkenstock shoes??? Just watch, more to come with this one... There were also German folks, Charles and Charlie, with Lederhosen long and short including. I’m sure I saw two Hansels, but only one Gretel and she was wearing an “I Dream of Jeannie” outfit. I wonder where her bottle is...? The 1900 bandit leader Poncho Villa, modern day Robin Hood, Superman and an FBI agent were also there fighting crimes... ONLY against the wealthy of course. A monarch rode along with the Admiral, The Queen of “Hot Damn.” She was respectfully dressed in red velvet, a Santa top with a long hemline just above the knees with spiral hat to match, definitely a competitive standout in her masterpiece costume. The royal romantic couple, Lord Reginald Farquardt and the lovely Lady Phoebe Beatrice Farquardt heard the Queen of “Hot Dam” was attending this most important social event of the season and could not miss seeing her. Finally, BZZZZING by royalty and looking for his Biker Chick was Karsten Piefremment in a unique, handmade bumble bee costume and flew away with the winning costume! Time to start driving. All cars were ready and waiting except for Charlie Collins and his problematic MGB. But just a hop, skip and a jump and he was back with us in the Wal-Mart parking lot with everyone happy to see him before we all left for Hot Springs. Jim and Bunnie Hofer supported the Austin Healy rally with Bunnie sporting a union Jack mini skirt, nice legs girlfriend! One of the most exotic vintage cars on the run belonged to Bill Jacob and his wife. On their maiden voyage they brought their restored Cobra that was actually **HEATED** rather than over heated. The total number of cars on the Polar Bear Run was 20. The total number of people was approximately 40 WONDERFUL attendees. This was a great weekend run to the Gulpha Gorge, with just a chill in the air. Everyone drove up the path to the water’s edge...first standing at the amphitheater. The whole gang quickly posed for a snapshot then off the cloth came and look – Ronnie McLeod with a classical embellished ballet tutu with Birkenstocks. Yes, that is right or is that wrong???... sooo very wrong. Is this the new Navy??? This year’s 4 Polar Bears jumped in and came up out of the deep creek plunge fest. Drinks were had by all Bears. And a very warm thank you to ALL of those who braved the IIICCY water: Jim Peckham, John Peckham, Ronnie McLeod and our new member, Ron Kew, from Hot Springs. Finally, off to the hotel to warm up. British cars are parked for the night. Dinner at the Brau Haus with good company BMCAers. Thank you so very much for supporting this monthly rally in the Austin Healey First Run as a Marque Leader. Get your crews ready. We are having BMCA Grand Prix Go-Cart Racing in May. More information will be in next month’s newsletter.

Sincerely, Dena Dixon



EMPIRE MARK EVENT

Saturday, February 26, 2011

Rally Event to KARSTEN PIEFREMENT's Shop In Yellville
LUKA RESTORATIONS (LUKA = LUCinda-Karsten)

<http://www.ghosttownclassics.com/home>

Leave from McLeod's in Maumelle at 9am.

We go I-40 to Ar 65N (exit 124) in Conway.

North on Ar 65 to Clinton.

Rest stop at Sinclair gas station on the right side of Ar 65 just south of Clinton.

Continue on Ar 65N to Ar27 and turn right.

At the Y split, veer left onto Ar 14 to Yellville.

You will cross the Buffalo River on Ar 14,
then turn right MC6035 just past Silver Run cabins.

LUKA Restorations is located approximately 2 miles down MC6035 on the left.

Karsten's phone number: 870-736-0728 (cell)

Plans include lunch at the shop (very clean),
and time for everyone to look at Karsten and Cindy's car collection (20-30 cars).

If you enjoy farm life, Cindy will introduce you to her chickens.

Supper will be at Karsten and Cindy's for those who want to spend the night at the
SILVER RUN Cabins or the CARLTON-MARION INN in Yellville.

Make your own reservations

Tell Jim if you're staying so plans can be made for supper.

Jim Clark will lead this event. 501-416-4633 (cell)

Silver Run Cabins

Byron & Belenda Shipman
14 Silver Run Lane
Yellville, Ar. 72687
870-449-6355

The Carlton-Marion Inn

309 West Old Main Street •
Yellville, Arkansas 72687
By Phone: 870-449-6203

February MG Marque News

I am trying to figure this out. It seems like lately everywhere I go there is a MG or two for sale.

On the way to the BMCA meeting Tuesday night I ran across one in a dealership parking lot.

I called the dealer the next day to find out what the story was on it. It was traded in on an Alfa Romero and now it won't start. I will be looking at it on the 8th after I return to Little Rock.

While here in Wisconsin I was looking at craigslist for different parts of the state and found at least 8 MGs for sale, most of which were priced under \$8500 and looked to be in decent shape. There were a few in Chicago area too but I wouldn't want to try to drive out of there at this moment.

After seeing all these MGs for sale I began to wonder why someone would want to get rid of such a nice car or even worse trade one in on an Alfa.

Dwayne Dwyer MG Marque Leader



The Morgan Plus 4 Featuring the car owned by Ron McLeod

HFS Morgan first opened a garage in Malvern Link in Worcestershire in 1906. By 1909 he was building three-wheeled cars with vee-twin engines. In 1910 Mr. Morgan set-up the Morgan Motor Company and Harrods, the London department store, was the first agent for Morgan. Morgan produced his first four-wheeler, the 4/4, in 1935. The Plus 4 model produced from 1950 to 1968 did not look all that much different from the 4/4 but carried a more powerful Standard Vanguard engine. The Plus 4 was billed as “a small car with a larger engine and wonderful all around performance”. The car was touted as “the car ideally suited for the family man”.

The Plus 4 continued to use steel body panels over a wooden framework on a ladder-type steel chassis, just like the 4/4.

The 1960 Morgan Plus 4 Super Sport pictured belongs to Ron McLeod. Ron says that he bought this car totally disassembled (really totally disassembled, as most of the parts were in boxes and bags and the body parts separate from the chassis) about four years ago. He has performed some serious work on this car since that time and actually had it running and driving at the 2009 BMCA Swap Meet. This car has been treated to a rebuilt engine and all new wood (English Ash) in the sub frame supports and cockpit surround. The car sports a TR4 engine and 4 speed Moss transmission. As you can see from the picture, the car is ready for the paint and body shop. Ron plans a burgundy and silver duotone paint scheme for his car and I'll just bet that it will be gorgeous when finished.



Now, in order to take a picture of Ron's Morgan we had to move numerous boxes of parts and other stuff that were stacked on top of the car. Carts with other assorted parts had to also be moved to allow access to the car and a clear line of site for the camera. The amazing part of this story is that Ron would have any time at all to work on this car after repairing all of our cars day in and day out; amazing!



Well Ron, I hope this story will give you the boost needed to get the car painted and on the road. Maybe we could see it at Petit Jean or Fayetteville this year.

In any case, I know it will be a thing of beauty when it is finished and another fine example of British automotive art to add to your collection.

Jim Clark, Empire Marque Leader

Marque Responsibilities

March

Event...TR

TechTalk...AH

April

Event...MG

TechTalk....Emp

May

Event...AH

TechTalk....TR

Barrett (Barry) Harrison would like to try to have a huge British Car event during the National British Car Week in 2012 in Hot Springs. (May 30—June 3 2012) He has talked to the people at Moss, Little British Car Company, Coker Tire, Hagerty Ins. and the people behind National British Car Week. They all seem to think its worth the try and seem to be willing to help promote such an event. He has lots of great ideas for possible things to do. If you are interested in helping, attending, or have ideas to share, please give him a call...870) 532-2100. Or email him barrett1@sbcglobal.net

Triumph Marque News

The spring-like temperatures from last weekend were surely enough to give anyone the itch to be “on the road again” in their LBC. It made me pull out one of my favorite car books, “The Bad Girl’s Guide to the Open Road” by Cameron Tuttle. She recommends that if you find yourself, among other things, feeling trapped, bored or used and abused by the world, don’t get mad—get bad! Throw a few things in the car and squeal away from the curb. Mother Road is always there for you. Some of those ‘few things’ I have to have for a road trip are some Road Tunes. Ms. Tuttle and I agree on a few favorite road trip songs: I Get Around by the Beach Boys, The Road’s my Middle Name by Bonnie Raitt, Girls Just Wanna Have Fun by Cyndi Lauper, Born to Run by Bruce Springsteen, and of course, you have to have Willie Nelson’s On the Road Again.

Here is a paragraph about road tripping from the book’s introduction:

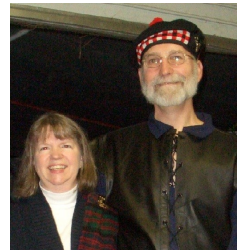
“Road tripping is you in a car with an open throttle and an open mind. It’s the ultimate brain douche that clears your head and leaves you feeling fresh. It’s freedom in fast-forward, a movable feast, and a ticket to ride....It’s an open invitation to be bad—whatever that means to you—cop a bad attitude, use bad judgment, have a bad hair day,.....You go girl! Your life is an open road.”

Sorry guys, she did use the word “douche” but in a good way!

Charles and I are looking forward to the road trip to Yellville at the end of February, and we can’t help but plan a driving event for March. This one will be much shorter than either the January or February trips! We will take a drive up to Wye Mountain to take in the beauty of the daffodils.

Then we will head back down the mountain and have a bite hopefully at a restaurant with OUTDOOR seating (if the weather cooperates)! Our tentative date is March 13th in the afternoon. So throw a few things in your LBC, with your own set of perfect driving tunes and make your plan to join us that day. More details to come.

Charles and Lisa



**Batesville
Scottish
Festival
April 9,
2011**

**Holiday Inn
Express Hotel
& Suites
1-800-HOLIDAY
(465-4329)**

**Group Code
EG1
rate: \$82.56
plus tax**

**The Ten Blocked
rooms will be
held until
March 19, 2011**

BMCA Membership and Advertising Rates

Yearly membership is \$30.00 for the primary member and \$15.00 for the associate.
Yearly renewal deadline is March meeting each year.

Advertising in the Bits and Spares is available to members and non-members alike.
(Members do get a discount of course!)

	One Month/One Year*	Non-Member Rate
Eighth Page	\$ 5.00 / \$ 48.00	\$ 10.00 / \$ 60.00
Quarter Page	\$ 9.00 / \$ 86.40	\$ 18.00 / \$ 120.00
Half Page	\$ 16.00 / \$ 153.60	\$ 32.00 / \$ 220.00
Full Page	\$ 30.00 / N/A	\$ 64.00 / N/A

*Yearly rate must be same ad, 12 issues.

Classified ads (items for sale or trade) for members are free. Non-members may submit an ad for \$5.00 per month.
Classified ads published as available and space allows.

Membership Notice

Time to Renew Your Membership

If your name is Highlighted in **YELLOW** on this Newsletter,
You need to send a check to :

**Dale Foster
#2 Monarch Ct
Maumelle, AR 72113
membership@bmca.net**

\$30/year primary member \$15/year spouse Also 3-for-2



BMCA Monthly Meeting - Tuesday March 1, 2011

The monthly BMCA meeting is held at the **Western Sizzlin** in Benton, off I-30 (Congo Exit) 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, hear all the latest and greatest at the meeting then stay a little late to kick the tyres on the British cars in the parking lot & visit with fellow BMCA'ers.

Calendar of BMCA and Regional Events

Feb. 26, 2011...Empire Rally to Yellville (details pg.5)

March 13, 2011...Triumph Rally to Wye Mountain

March 19, 2011...21st Annual British Car Show - New Orleans LA www.bmcno.org

April 9, 2011...MG Rally to Batesville Scottish Fest

April 16, 2011...McLeods & BMCA Annual Swap Meet

April 28-May 1 2011...South Central VTR Regionals -New Braunfels, TX www.sotxtriumphasn.org

May 31-Jun 8, 2011....British Car Week

Jun 10, 11, 2011...Car & Cycles Against Cancer

<http://www.stlouismgclub.com/files/Images%20Content/CarsCancer2011.pdf>

Jun 18, 2011...MOTAA Car Show, Petit Jean Mtn. http://www.motaa.com/auto_shows.htm

July 22,23, 2011...Greater Ozarks All British Car Day, Carthage, MO. <http://www.gobmc.org/>

Sept 23-24...10th Annual Brits in the Ozarks Show (www.britshironnwa.org)

(Holiday Inn Convention Center, Springdale 479) 751- 8300)

Do you know of an upcoming event? Send the information to newsletter@bmca.net



British Motoring Club of Arkansas

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