

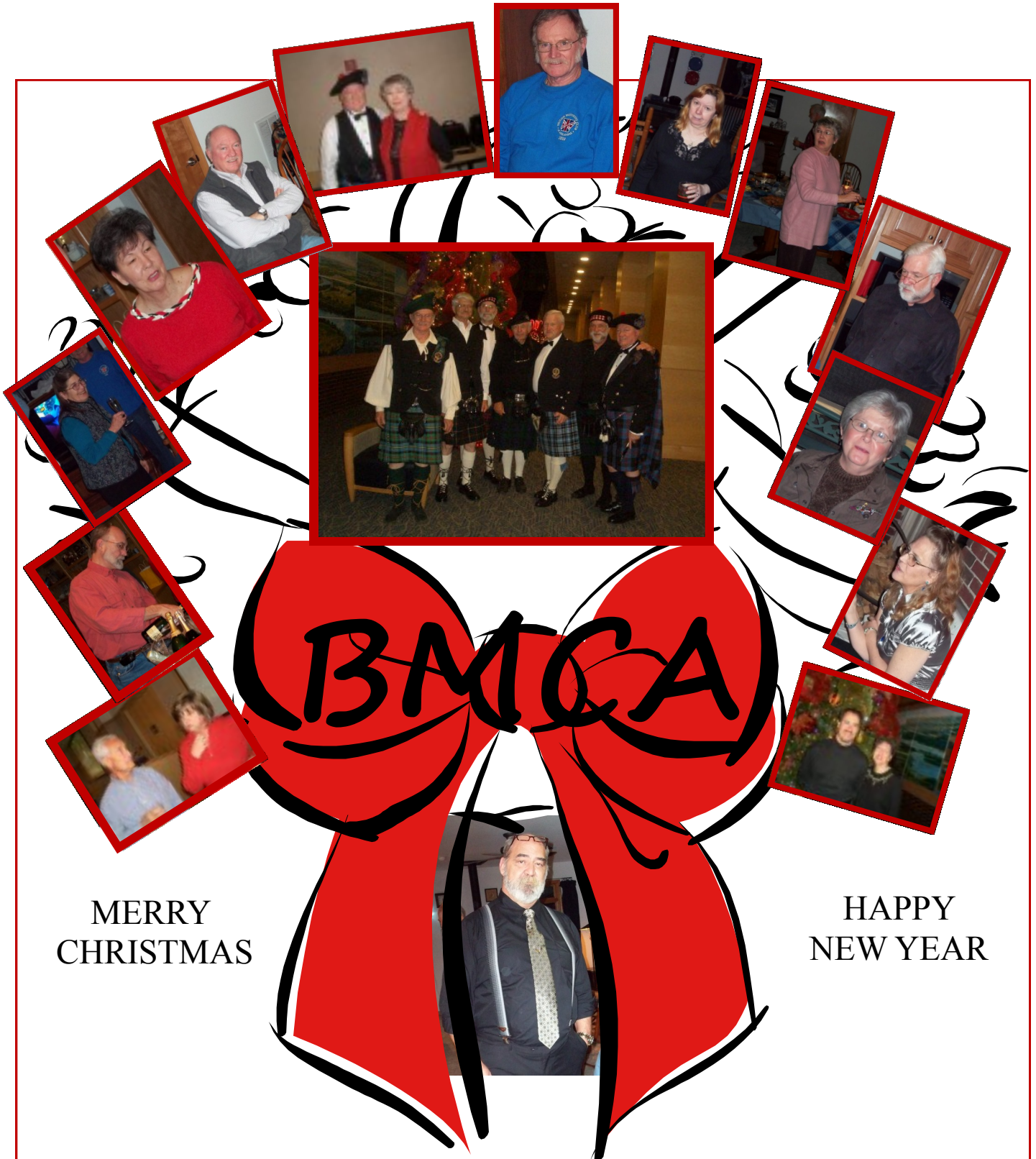


Bits and Spares

For The British Motoring Enthusiast

Established in 1989

January 2011



MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Prez Sez

It's 2011! Hope everybody had a safe and happy holiday season.

I have been asked to let all members know that it is once again time to update your contact information for the Member's Directory. If you have had a change in the published contact information, and want the correct information published in the 2011 Member's Directory please forward the changes to Dale Foster (membership@bmca.net) as soon as possible. We would like to have all changes made and publish the 2011 Directory sometime in February.

Heads up to all New Marque Leaders - The planning and leading of the monthly events/runs are the responsibility of the Marque Leaders. In order to get the highest turn out, the earlier notice of where and when the events are going to take place, the better. The January run, The Annual Polar Bear Run, was the Austin Healey Marque event. The as yet to be announced February Event is an Empire Event followed by Triumph's event in March and MG's in April. This rotation will continue through out the year. The monthly Tech Talks follow the same rotation starting with Triumph's talk about electrical connection and fuel pump operation given by Charles Hutchison during the January meeting. MG is slated for Feb., AH in March and Empire in April.

Lodging information for those overnighing in Batesville following the Scottish Festival is available from Brenda Collins, she has reserved a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Express, to reserve your room, contact Brenda at newsletter@bmca.net or Hessdorf@aol.com .

As always, please be safe when exercising your lbc's, especially during these months with extreme weather. We always hate it when one of the cars, or the occupants, are damaged or hurt. While the cars are getting harder and harder to restore the occupants are irreplaceable, we really don't want to lose any of either.

Mark your calendars - next meeting is Tuesday, February 1st @ 7:30 PM. Hope to see everybody there.

Be Safe, Have Fun and by all means - Keep the shiny side up! Brad



BMCA Membership and Advertising Rates

Yearly membership is \$30 for the primary member & \$15 for the associate.

Check with Membership Chairman about three for two special.

Yearly renewal deadline is March meeting each year.

Advertising in the Bits and Spares is available to member and non-members.

(Members do get a discount of course)

	Member Rate	Non-Member Rate
	One Month / One Year *	One Month / One Year *
Eight Page	\$5.00 / \$48.00	\$10.00 / \$60.00
Quarter Page	\$9.00/ \$86.00	\$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.

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\$30/year primary member
\$15/year spouse

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'Bits & Spares'

is usually 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 after the

Secretary's Minutes - January 4, 2011

Hello again BMCA friends! Last Tuesday, all the males from my teenage student's, to the men friends I know were talking about the pending Razorback game. With only 21 in attendance (1 visitor- Brad's mother), I am blaming the shortage on the game. Brad gave the call to order by wishing all a Happy New Year. Mr. Wheeler was absent, so a motion was made and seconded to bypass the review of the November's minutes and the budget this month.

Ronnie started the Old Business by telling us about the Christmas Party. We had a great turnout, and it seemed everyone had a fantastic time. Ronnie gave Ms. Vera congrats on what a fine job she did in making it a great time for all.

New Business began with Ms. Dena passing out an invitation with driving directions for the Polar Bear run on Jan. 8th. Starting point is the Wal-Mart on Hwy 10 at 9:30 am. Departure time will be at 10:00 BMCA time.

Jan. 15th, at 4:00 pm, the officer's meeting will be at the LCYC's conference room. Our President, Brad, requested all officers, past and present, to attend; but, it is open for all members' to attend. Empire has the next run in February. The Clark's were not present. Details will be forth coming. The Hutchison's have the Triumph Marque whose rally is in March. They were open for ideas. April 9th is the Scottish Festival in Batesville. Everyone is to meet at McDonalds by McCain Mall at 6:30 am. Plan to leave by 7 to meet the next group in Bald Knob, and arriving at the festival by 9 am. There are 10 rooms blocked for BMCA at the Holiday Inn Express. The Swap meet is scheduled for the 16th. There will be a work day prior the meet. Information will be given later.

Mr. Hutchison did the tech talk. He had trouble with his TR4 dying. He thought it was the fuel pump. It seemed to die at the light at the Morgan exit on the way to LCYC. He put on the electrical pump for just those occasions. After arriving at Ronnie's, he bought a new pump, and attached it. It drove for an awhile. Next time on the way to LCYC, it died at the same spot. He said it was because of the Lake Corvallis vortex. He just could not find the problem. After the last time it died, he noticed the high tension lead wire was broke. It had a break in the wiring and after a certain amount of time the wire would short out causing the car to die. Fixing this lead wire solved the problem. Moral of the story: always do a thorough inspection, don't just assume anything.

For the Gots and Goofs- Santa Clause brought Jack Brashear a '59 TR-3a with an over-drive. She doesn't look bad, but she is a definitely a fixer upper. The motor hasn't been turned over for 15 years, but she has been well sheltered. She's old English white with **orange shag carpeting**.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: John Peckham was Jan 1st, followed by Elvis and Ronnie's on the 8th. The birthday party will be at the Gulper Gorge.

Jim Peckham won the door prize, which consisted of a new funnel, tire gauge and a box of rubber gloves.

Marque Responsibilities for 2011

Month	Event	TechTalk		Month	Event	TechTalk
January	AH	TR		July	TR	AH
February	Empire	MG		August	MG	Empire
March	TR	AH		September	AH	TR
April	MG	Empire		October	Empire	MG
May	AH	TR		November	TR	AH
June	Empire	MG		December	Christmas	Party

Texarkana Rally November 21, 2010

When the fog lifted on that late November morning there was still mist in the chilly air. A dozen small British cars were gathered in the parking lot of McDonald's on State Route 229 just west of Benton. Many of the drivers and passengers were disguised as Texans, some to the extreme. The group headed to the inside to take the chill off and to enjoy a breakfast before hitting the trail to Texas. They were met with courteous smiles, stares and some smirks and chuckles on the inside. That is what they wanted, and expected and of course they were delighted.



At nine am after a brief drivers meeting, they took to their cars and lined up for the long drive. The mist had risen but the sky gave off the right kind of light to highlight the turning oak leaves which added to the ambience.

The selected route took the caravan through Haskell and down Highway 229 to a turn off at Highway 222. At about the hamlet of Poyen, a large white cow stopped in her tracks along side of the road to watch the dozen cars pass at about 45 miles per hour. As she watched and saw the Western attire, she may have had a brief flashback to her roots in Texas. She watched each car pass by.

After a drive of about 25 miles the travelers took a sharp turn to the right onto Highway 222 and drove west. At the small town of Brush Creek a farmer, in an older Chevrolet Silverado pickup was about to enter the highway, but hesitated when he saw the caravan of British cars approaching. He shifted into park and enjoyed the view.

From the far off look in his eye it was evident he was humming the Willie Nelson tune, On The Road Again.



At the next left turn our group was observed by a small herd of Brahma cattle, all of their heads were turned toward the road. A small break from an otherwise boring morning in the corral.



A right turn at Joan (pronounced as Jo Ann by the settlers) took us onto one of the most scenic routes of the trip. Highway 128 which in some spots is tunnel like with Oaks spreading across the curvy road. The subdued lighting enhanced the fall colors. The sharp curves brought the drivers back to attention to every detail of the road and the nice feeling of the quick response. These are British sports cars, built for this road.

The travelers stopped at Sparkys, an older gas station near Sparkman, for a break before heading down the road to Camden.

The group arrived at Andy's Hog Wild Bar-B-Q just before noon. All of those cowboys and girls was a little more than the place could handle, but with a bit more than the usual jiggle in her step, the counter person got the orders out in a timely fashion. You could tell she was exercising restraint as she waited on the group, and was seen laughing out loud through the window as the buckaroos left.

Empire Marque
January 2011

I want to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! I also want to say how pleased I am to be your Empire Marque leader in 2011.

I've been thinking about just how I would like to move forward with this very important responsibility this year. As I look through the membership list of BMCA, I see that a number of folks in our club own some very interesting and rare cars that deserve to be highlighted and discussed. So, each month I will do my best to highlight one car in the Empire Marque, provide some information about the car itself and hopefully include a brief interview with the owner. I will also try to include a picture when possible to help tell the story.

Some of the cars I hope to highlight include: Jaguar, Rolls Royce, Sunbeam, Lotus, TVR, London Taxi, Mini and Morgan. I had really hoped to find a Humber Super Snipe among the cars owned by a BMCA member but, if it is out there, I can't find it. That is such a cool name for a car that I just may write about it anyway.

So, all of you Empire Marque owners (and you know who you are) please be ready to talk about your car when I come calling. Each car has a story that is unique to both the car and the owner and I wager that this will be of interest to our members.

This year is shaping up to be a great one with a lot of fun activities and events that bring people together, allow us to enjoy our cars in so many ways and share stories of our coveted British Cars. I am anxious to get started so the first installment will begin in February and will highlight the....

Well, I guess I'm out of space so you'll just have to wait until next month.

Jim Clark

Austin Healey News

First of all, I would like to thank our friend Ronnie McLeod for encouraging me to list my name as a contender for the Austin Healey Marque Leader. Next, I would like to thank Jim Clark for a great year of serving as the Austin Healey Leader. He brought a Pure Austin Fitness to our cars. The blend of activities was engaging for those who like to get together, talk about tools, a little trading, and share knowledge. Jim Clark was there, and for those who prefer to learn by reading, he constantly tries to make our small publication the best read. But he was not alone in his Healey. Jim had a lovely little lady by his side, Mrs. Jane Clark. She attended meetings on his behalf, and always brought a touch of elegance to the Driving Club. Look out Martha Stewart! The Clarks are a great blend, and I thank them both for all the fun! Also, to my dear sweet Gentlemen Friend Jim Peckham, thank you for making all this happen for me. One afternoon, Jim surprised me with a 4 wheel ruby red jewel of an Austin Healey. That's something a girl just won't forget in a million years. I'm still dreaming ... Pinch me and wake me up. I'm back now! I'm truly excited and passionate about our cars, so let's get driving. Just know the best way to have fun in your membership is to participate in it whenever, wherever, and however you can.

Be happy, and take of your car,

Dena Dixon

Con't from pg 4



Charley and Brenda Collins took over leading the group from Jerry and Dianna McCullough at Camden. The dozen British cars made their way to Hope then on to Texarkana. After checking in at the hotel and swapping stories the BMCA group traveled on to Moe and Jeannine Bokaie's, for the party which began at about 4 p.m. Arriving at Moe and Jeannine's place was like finding the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Lovely ! They live on a quite tree lined residential street with plenty of

parking for the cars. The party place was at the end of a long driveway. Many thought the shop was the nicest they had ever seen. The inside was paneled with finished particle board. License plates and car memorabilia from years gone by lined the walls. One would not guess cars had been parked on the clean floor.

Jeannine had a nicely decorated banquet table set up with places for everyone. The buffet was nicely stocked with a fine variety of food. Way too much, and delicious.

Moe graciously showed club members though his vast collection of cars in various stages of restoration.

The party went on into the night and everyone seemed to have a nice time.

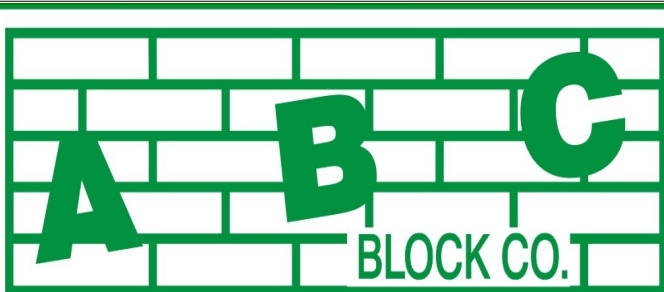


HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The Morris Minor: A British miracle

The brilliant little car that symbolised Britain's emergence from post-war austerity celebrated a remarkable milestone 50 years ago

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/motoring/8236614/The-Morris-Minor-A-British-miracle.html>



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Triumph New Year's Resolutions

With the start of 2011, many of us think about adopting one or more resolutions to improve ourselves or our lives. Since our LBC's have a soul, they may also require some personal discipline and would benefit from adopting a New Year's Resolution. What are some potential resolutions that you could suggest to your beloved LBC? Our baby blue TR3 has been a very cantankerous beast over the past several years. We have suggested that she adopt a resolution to always get her driver/passenger back home before breaking. Or even better would be a resolution to not break at all during 2011! Our firstborn, the TR4, can resolve to be a good role model for the other cars.

And the TR8 may consider a resolution to work on improving its outward appearance.

Other potential LBC New Year's Resolutions:

I resolve to reduce the mess (AKA oil) I leave on the floor of the garage.

I resolve to trim the rust off to maintain my attractive figure.

I resolve to pick up my feet when crossing potholes or speed bumps.

I resolve to spend more time on BMCA outings.



But when all is said and done, the reason these cars have a soul is directly related to their

individual quirks and imperfections. As we all know, as long as you eventually do arrive safely home, any break-downs along the road are just part of the adventure, rather than a disaster.

So here's hoping we all have a great 2011 and our LBCs continue to age like fine wine— just getting better and better!

Lisa and Charles



Batesville Scottish Festival April 9, 2011
Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites 1-800-HOLIDAY (465-4329)
Ten Rooms have been blocked for British Motoring Club of Arkansas
Group Code EG1.....rate: \$82.56 plus tax



When I joined BMCA in the fall of 2008, I had limited knowledge of most British cars. I had worked on some MG Midgets back in the early 90's in a small shop in Mississippi, but really didn't grow to love and appreciate the challenge of owning one, until recently. As with all hobbies, it is a learn-as-you-go experience. With the help of the members of the BMCA, I am learning a lot. I have now been given the chance to be your MG Marque leader for 2011. I will do my best to do a good job for you all.

The first MG I bought was the 1974 MGB I bought at last year's swap meet from Garry Jefferies. It was a sharp looking little car! Now, I know it is fun to drive, as well. I am lucky that I haven't had to do much to it other than routine maintenance. I was so excited about the ease of owning ONE, that I felt I needed TWO (76 Midget)...then THREE (73 Midget)...then FOUR (73 MGB)! It suddenly became an addiction that pushed my Austin Healey Sprite to the backburner. Now, here I am a proud MG owner and Marque leader. I hope my journey into the world of MG will bring about a renewed enthusiasm for it. I know that I am excited!

Dwayne Dwyer, MG Marque Leader

BMCA Monthly Meeting - Tuesday February 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

January 8, 2011...*Annual Polar Bear Event - More details to follow - Ron McLeod has info*

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

April 9, 2011...*Batesville Scottish Fest (info on page 7 about hotel reservations)*

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

April 28-May1 2011...*South Central VTR Regionals -New Braunfels, TX www.sotxtriumphassn.org*

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.britishironnwa.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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