

President's Message

We are at the tail end of the 2011 LBC driving season when driving can be very pleasant and the foliage beautiful. Last Saturday, October 1st, the Northern Indiana Lakes British Motor Club held their annual Fall Out Car Show at Winona; twenty-three Michiana Brits members were in attendance and lunched together. An increasingly overcast and colder day changed at noon as the sun came out and beautiful cool weather prevailed. On Wednesday 19th we will gather for our monthly meeting/dinner at the newly refurbished Papa Vino's Italian Restaurant near Grape Road, Mishawaka. We'll announce the results of the election of Board members at the meeting and get ready for our last 2011 driving activity. Saturday October 22nd is the Fall Colors Drive hosted again by the Glanders in Elkhart, always a fun drive, filling potluck dinner and good time for everyone.

By the end of November most of our LBCs will be going into storage for the winter. That is a time to think about your holiday gift list for the car - cup holders, wind blocker, seat covers, cruise control, new alternator, etc., etc., that you'd like to put on the car for next year. Planning now for repairs & improvements during the winter can help make the 2012 driving season more fun, enjoyable and safe.

As we approach November, its time for everyone to think about what should be done to keep your LBC in good driving condition, and improvements that can be added to the vehicle, for next year's driving. A good way to find out about the condition of your car is to go on our one day drives throughout the year. A one day drive can be a shake-down that surfaces the little, and major, problems lurking about but not always obvious until the car is given a good drive.

General Meetings

October 19, 2011 6:30 pm Last Summer Season's Dinner/General Meeting
Papa Vino's Italian Restaurant (574) 271-1692
 5110 Edison Lakes Parkway, Mishawaka. IN 46545

November 19, 2011 8:30 am First Fall Season's Breakfast/General Meeting
Jan Marie's Portage Ave. Café (574) 234-5555
 1519 Portage Ave., South Bend, IN 46619

Location: 1 Block North of Martin's on Portage Ave. Parking: Behind Restaurant on the west side

Board Meetings

November 1, 2011 6:30pm David Piser (574) 217-8557
 6109 Tamerlane Dr. South Bend. IN 46614

Our Club Activities for the 2011 Season



Oct. 22	Fall Colors Drive through Elkhart County, IN & Cass & St. Joseph Counties, MI See details on Page 4 of this Newsletter.
Dec 10	Club's 2011 Christmas/Hanukkah Party Jim & Kim Betz – Details to follow

Club's Web Site - www.michianabrits.com.

Membership

Currently the Club's annual membership is 71 for 2011.

Board Members

President: Larry Palguta Phone: 574-288-3923 Email: palguta@sbcglobal.net	V.P. Membership: Herminne Marrese Phone: 574-271-7550 Email: hmarrese@comcast.net
V.P. Activities: Keith Wishmeier Phone: 574-277-7746 Email: ckwishmeier@cs.com	V.P. Communications: Maurice Levitt Phone: 574-231-1565 Email: mlfnl@att.net
Secretary: Maurice Levitt Phone: 574-231-1565 Email: mlfnl@att.net	Treasurer: David Piser Phone: 574-217-8557 Email: dayledavid@comcast.net

'British Marque' Car Club News

If you are not receiving this publication, please advise Herm Marrese at (574) 271-7550.

Newsletter Submissions

This is the Newsletter of the Michiana Brits, Ltd., Car Club and is distributed to all paid Annual Members as part of their dues. If you would like to submit articles for publication, they are most welcome, the deadline is the 25th of each month. Send all correspondence (electronic submissions are preferable) to the President, bring it to a General Meeting, or send to the Newsletter Editor at mlfnl@att.net

Material is subject to editorial revision and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the © 2011 Michiana Brits, Ltd., British Car Enthusiasts.

Annual Election of Board Members

On September 19th. at the close of nominations, the following list of names were received for election to the Michiana Brits Board of Directors for the next two years: Herminne Marrese, David Piser and Tom Shumaker.

The above three nominations for election will be voted and confirmed at the October 19th monthly General Meeting & Election/Dinner.

Board Meeting October 4th, 2011

The Board meeting was attended by Larry, Maurice, David and Roger.

- 1) Financial Report – the Club’s account has \$ 1,908.30.
- 2) Memberships: No new memberships in September – Total Club membership is currently 71.
- 3) 2012 Car Show – Saint Mary’s have been contacted to firm up contract for the 2012 Show. 3 new signs are being prepared and the Show mailer is to be redrafted by Ken to remove material related to the ‘Tea At The Vicarage’. The Car Show processes are being updated to improve parking, registration, and ballot counting.
- 4) Board Elections – Results will be announced at our next general meeting/dinner at Papa Vino’s Italian Restaurant on Oct. 19th.
- 5) 2011 Fall Tour – A second trip report by another Club Member will be included in next month’s newsletter.
- 6) 2012 Fall Tour – Randy will plan around the dates of Sept. 20th – 23rd for this activity.
- 7) Club Newsletter – Maurice will again be the Editor of the Club’s monthly newsletter. Kimberley had done an excellent job in the past few months, but was unable to go to monthly meetings and events due to personal obligations. We thank her for all her past efforts.
- 7) Upcoming Events – Oct 19th general meeting/dinner at Papa Vinos Restaurant; Oct. 22nd Fall Colors Drive starting at Randy & Bev Glanders house; Nov. 19th general meeting/breakfast at Jan Marie's Cafe, Portage Ave, SBN; Dec. 10th Xmas/Hanukkah Party at Betz's house in South Bend; Jan 21st general meeting/breakfast at Perkins Restaurant & Bakery, next to Toll Road, Elkhart.

Michiana Brits 2011 Annual Fall Colors Drive on October 22nd.

Come out and enjoy the colors of Indiana and Southwestern Michigan on a one day drive. The tour will start at 10:00 am from Randy and Bev Glanders' house, at 28614 C.R. 16, Elkhart, IN 46515, Tel.# (574) 294-8950.

The morning drive is scheduled to be for 2 1/2 hours to finish up at the Fisher Lake Inn in Mendon, MI for lunch. The drive after lunch will be for approximately 3 hours and will finish up back at the Glanders for a carry-in pot-luck dinner. Members may leave their carry-in pot-luck dinner in Randy and Bev's refrigerator when they arrive in the morning to start the drive. For further information call Randy at (574) 294-8950.

Wheatberry Restaurant & Tavern General Meeting – Sept. 14th

(Report submitted by Larry Palguta)

A rainy and chilly evening did not deter 22 Michiana Brits members from driving to just north of Buchanan, MI for our monthly meeting/dinner on Thursday September 14th. Keith & Mary Wishmeier's Spitfire seemed to be the only LBC driven to the meeting which is admirable (??) in view of the crummy weather that moved in quickly during the late afternoon. I brought along about ten name tags to give to David Piser and promptly lost them hurrying a few yards from the parking lot into the restaurant. Fortunately, someone turned them in to the restaurant and I got them back but not before Kai Shepherd hid them under my hat. What would we do without our friends!

The 22 Brits were directed to a separate back room that has table room for about 36 persons if some folks don't mind sitting at a couple of bar stool high tables. But everyone had seating at regular height tables which deprived the President of looking down upon his sometimes loyal subjects! As publicized in our meeting notices, the menu was quite varied, reasonably priced, the food good, and service was also good. Members tried burgers (big burger in large basket with sweet potato fries), full dinners, salads, and lots of different beverages. Jim Betz enjoyed his food but certainly enjoyed his 5 small samples of Michigan beers. I asked again for a light brown ale named "Moose Drool" but they were out of that brand so I had a brown ale named after a dog "Elly", along with a blackened chicken & andouille hash dinner. Both were very good.

The club currently has \$1908 in the bank, and members were reminded of the upcoming election of Board members and the need for at least one more nominee.

The Fall Out Show in Winona on October 1st was discussed, with the day starting via breakfast at 8 AM at the Bravo Restaurant on Lincoln Way in Osceola, IN.

Randy Glanders passed out a proposed itinerary for the Fall Tour Sept. 22-25, and also discussed the Fall Colors Drive headquartered out of the Glanders residence on October 22nd.

Every one had a great time and were ready for a repeat visit to the Wheatberry. Hopefully the next time we will have nicer weather so we can drive our LBCs and enjoy the drive up Red Bud Trail.

The following are photos taken at this meeting:



AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB'S FIELD DAY AT ROUND BARN WINERY

(Report submitted by Larry Palguta)

Saturday September 10th started out as an overcast, cloudy day with intermittent sprinkles and somewhat threatening weather. But that didn't stop faithful Brits members from showing up at the J&D Truck Stop west of Niles, MI for breakfast at 8 AM. Larry & Deb Palguta arrived before 8 AM and greeted the Wishmeiers, Piser/Browns, Kerstetters, Bushnells & Dan Craft for a leisurely, good breakfast. Shortly after 9 AM, everyone assembled in the parking lot as John & Kathy Bushnell untrailer their MGTC. Our five cars (3 MGBs, a Spitfire and the MGTC) caravanned up US 12, Red Bud Trail through Buchanan, MI, Snow Road & Hill Road to the Round Barn Winery & Distillery, arriving at 9:45. We were greeted by one member of the AH Club and an empty parking lot. Local laws prevent beverages from being carried onto the parking lot so the winery avoided the issue by having entrants park in the grassy areas adjacent the roads. Being the first entrants to arrive, our cars were parked in the grass along the road winding around the Round Barn tasting room. Actually that's much better than parking on blacktop which can be quite hot in warm weather. Our small group set out camp chairs on the "primo" area of the sidewalk directly across from our "primo" parking area. The AH Club advised that they are a bit slow in setting up their registration etc., so everyone relaxed and checked out the facilities. For sale at a \$1/ticket or 6 tickets for \$5 were chances for door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Wine tasting opened at 10 AM.

Our camp chairs were just outside the tasting room which has two serving bars, restrooms, and lots of product on sale. For \$8 you can buy a tasting glass with 5 wooden chips each for a taste and one wooden chip for a \$5 discount on the purchase of 3 bottle of product. The Round Barn's product is 19 wines (including a popular Cranberry), a bourbon, rum, vodka, and a number of good beers. The prices are a bit high, not typical for a small local winery.

Slightly uphill is a red barn where the beers, slushies, etc. are sold. At the entrance is a grill area for burgers, hot dogs, brats & pulled pork sandwiches, starting around noon. On the other side of the entrance

is a port-a-co that houses the band which fired up around 12:30 PM. And just down the sidewalk and hill is the registration area where entrants could pick up their bottle of either a white or red Demi Sec wine.

To the east side of the Round Barn is the slope of a vineyard which ends just short of the road so British cars can be parked in between the ends of the rows of vines and the road. All in all, a really great venue for a car show. Car attendance grew throughout the late morning and mid-day, and the public also rolled in to visit the winery and enjoy the car show. That included a long limo with a bevy of young women out for a fun Saturday.

Others arrived for the show - Stan Mason in his Bugeye Sprite racer, the Zinns, Marna Prine, Dave Terhune, Mike Montgomery, Pete Van Blaricum & Pat Holmes. The Michiana Brits club was well represented. During our 5 hour visit at the Round Barn, the weather was cool, warm, clear, overcast, sunny, almost hot, partly cloudy, and spit a few sprinkles - very typical of our region's weather.

We visited with friends, sampled wine and distilled spirits, enjoyed lunch, met new "car people", and had a thoroughly enjoyable morning and afternoon before individual cars began departing for home. The AH Club's show will certainly grow in attendance and popularity during future years at the Round Barn Winery.

The following are a few photos of this event:



Fall Tour to Brown County, Indiana – Sept. 22nd - 25th.

(Report submitted by Tom Shumaker)

Brown County- our first trip in a little British car

Thursday Morning

Debbie and I will be going on a trip to Nashville, IN, in Maggie. We are both looking forward to this little trip, but I am a bit apprehensive. Not only is it a long trip about 600 miles but it is a trial of my ability to take a 35 year old MG Midget from having problems to a dependable vehicle. Along with traveling with a group of new friends and most have cars that are proven to be dependable. I think that I have done almost

everything I can think of to make this trip pleasurable for both of us. Gone through Maggie, put in different seats which I modified to be more comfy, changed the oils, new battery, new alternator, and new radiator. I haven't done anything with the brakes though that will be next year's project. Now it is time to pack and complete the task of fitting everything we will need for a 4 day trip in a little car that has about as much room as a laundry basket half full. I also am hoping for good weather even though they are forecasting some rain and temps in the 60s which is not favorable for having the top down and enjoying the wind in our hair and the sun warming our faces. But we are committed and ready to be thankful of any and All things that are presented to us on this trip

Thursday PM

Weather was great the whole way down, some rain after supper. Spent the day on the road. Hills and curves all the way, car handled just like it should. Although she had problems accelerating and later on one hill she really struggled going up. Dropped down to almost a crawl but she made it all the way down to Nashville, IN. Randy Glanders said that he had a spare part that should fit, which it did! 10 minutes later in the parking lot of the hotel the carburetor was repaired and so far it runs like it should. After supper the rain started, going back to the hotel my headlights only worked on high beams. Hopefully it was just the wet weather because it is a new switch. Oh well, it's British right?

Friday PM

Lost one vehicle today, got a piggyback ride home; think it will be an expensive trip home but when the electrical wires fail what can you do. Drove through Brown County State Park today. Had great fun. Then down more curvy hills (I think that's the only way they can make roads down here!), and ended at T.C. Steele's art studio and home. Very interesting but I think we went there just for the curves in the road, (dah!). Plus I keep hearing a rattle at 3000 rpm's other's think it's the water pump, and I hope it is because I can fix that fairly easily

Saturday PM

A day of excitement! More curves and hills, the little car performed well. Stopped at a potter's workshop and then to the covered bridge where we stopped and took pictures. More curves and up and down roads that make you feel like on a race track. Temperature was cool so we couldn't go topless but it was nice and cozy in the seats I installed. There were times of rain but the tires gripped the road very well. The ladies wanted to go to an antique mall on Main Street in Bedford; we had a hour to spent while we waited for our dining reservations. As we set off, we got separated in traffic and three little cars out of eight got to find Main Street on our own with a GPS leading the way. Wow what a ride! I think we found where they keep nowhere; it's out there in the hills. So we turned around and let it lead us back to civilization. We enjoyed a nice meal at the restaurant and then headed back to the hotel (in the dark, and sometimes in the rain). Curves and headlights in the rain don't mix well, in my opinion, but we made it back to the road that the hotel is on when one of the cars died (only one mile from the hotel). With a flash light and a wrench and

jumper cables we got her started and this journey for tonight has come to an end. Tomorrow will be the conclusion of a wonderful trip (I hope).

Sunday PM

We're heading home. Rain, rain and more rain, sure glad the wipers worked. It rained until we stopped for lunch and the roads were dry after lunch as we headed for home. Traveling in a group really made the journey pleasant. As we got closer to home we started to go our own separate ways and I felt a sense of uneasiness as Debbie and I traveled the last 20 miles on our own. But, to answer the question - would we do it again? I would say, when are we going?

Below are some photos of the trip:

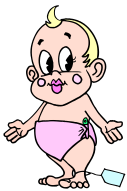


Winona Car Show at Winona Lake, Indiana – October 1st.

The weather was a bit nippy, and unusually cold for this trip to Winona Lake, but 17 members of our Club braved the weather and had breakfast at the Bravo Café in Osceola at 8:00 am. The group then left at 9:30 to caravan down to Winona Lake with Randy driving point. Unfortunately, Randy had a problem on the way with his alternator, and had to drop out, but later joined the group again at the Show, after curing his problem with a new battery. As usual, there was a large turn out of cars at this Show that was enjoyed by all. Personally I was surprised and enjoyed to see a **'1950 Standard Vanguard'** entry in the line up. I remember this car well - oops giving my age away, and it certainly brought back memories of this vehicle. At 12:00 pm, 23 Club members now had an enjoyable lunch at The Boathouse Restaurant alongside the Lake. The food and the service were excellent. Below are a few photos from the show:



In every month's Newsletter, I will submit a topic that I hope you will find useful in connection with the maintenance and enjoyment of our cars.



This month the topic is How to Tell If Your Brake Fluid Has Gone Bad.

(This article reproduced by permission of EHow)

Keeping your vehicle's brake at the consistency and level recommended allows for optimal function and extended life time of the braking system. Checking to make sure your brake fluid has not gone bad can save you time and money down the road.

Difficulty: Easy

Instructions:

1. Locate the brake fluid reservoir, which should be clear plastic and labeled either on the reservoir or the reservoir cap. Wipe the cap with a rag before opening to avoid brushing debris, dust or other particles into the fluid.
2. Use a turkey baster or hydrometer to draw out some of the brake fluid for better visual inspection. Good brake fluid should be clear or slightly brown. It should closely resemble vegetable oil.
3. Notice if the fluid is dark brown or if there are particles in it. Over time, brake fluid absorbs dirt and moisture causing it to change and go bad. Brake fluid should be changed every 2 years or as needed, by consulting your vehicle maintenance guide.
4. Check with a professional mechanic if you are unsure about the life of your brake fluid. Take the vehicle to them and they will use the same methods of visual inspection, but with more skill and knowledge.

Tips & Warnings:

If adding brake fluid, handle it with care. Brake fluid can damage paint surfaces and harm your eyes. Do not use brake fluid more than a year old or if it has been left open, since excess moisture in the fluid can harm your braking system.

I would like to add that our cars are now in the region of 30 to 40 years old, and would hazard a guess that the car's brake fluid has never been renewed by their present or previous owners. I consider that this is an important maintenance requirement.

Maurice

