Our Club Activities for the 2009 Season

Sept. 17 – 20th.	**Michiana Brits 4-Day Fall Trip** Details on this event are on Page 4.
Oct. 17th.	**Michiana Brits Annual Fall Color Drive**

Other Club/Organizations Activities for the 2009 Season

Sept. 12	**14th Annual NI Austin Healey Club/Lemon Creek British Car Field Day** Lemon Creek Winery. 533 E. Lemon Creek Rd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103-9714 11:00am - 5:00pm See additional information below on Page 3
Sept. 18-20th.	21st Annual Indy British Motor Days. American Legion Post 155. 852 W, Main, Carmel, IN 46032 For more info. call Dan Miller, (317) 783-0873, email: trrestore@aol.com
Sept. 25-27th.	The Southeastern Fall "Gathering of the Faithful" Mark XV. Hiawassee, GA

Clubs Web Site - www.michianabrits.com.

Membership Dues – Michiana Brits

The Michiana Brits, Ltd. British Car Enthusiasts annual membership dues are $22.00 payable by March 31st each year and should be sent to our V.P. Membership (Kai Shepherd. 59281 High Point Dr., South Bend, IN 46614). Dues for NAMGBR members are $17.00.

Membership Dues – NAMGBR Members

Members are advised that all Michiana Brits activities are covered by the North American MGB Register general liability policy, as long as there are at least eight of our club members that are paid-up NAMGBR members.

Current NAMGBR members are reminded to renew their annual membership dues of the NAMGBR on the anniversary month when you originally joined the NAMGBR.

Your membership number and anniversary date is printed on your NAMBR magazine address label, but if in doubt, please note that Bob Kerstetter, our club's NAMGBR liaison contact, has your anniversary month when you originally joined the NAMGBR.

British Marque Car Club News

If you are not receiving this publication, please advise Kai Shepherd at (574) 233-6967.

Newsletter Submissions

This is the Newsletter of the Michiana Brits Car Club and is distributed to all paid members as part of their dues. If you would like to submit articles for publication, the deadline is the 25th of each month. Send all correspondence, (electronic submissions are preferable), to the **Newsletter Editor**, at maurice116@att.net or bring it to a General Meeting. Material is subject to editorial revision and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the © 2009 Michiana Brits, Ltd., British Car Enthusiasts.

Treasurers Report

$ 299.15 currently in Bank Account
$2,500.00 CD that matures on May 7, 2010.

New Members

No new members this month to report.

Activities Reports

General Meeting at Edward Christian Dining – August 20th, 2009.

This general meeting/dinner was in downtown Bremen, Indiana, and 24 members enjoyed this first visit to this restaurant. Our group was seated at six separate tables, and the menu items were reasonably priced.

Larry ran the General Meeting, reporting on the following items:

- David Piser will continue to be the Club's Treasurer.
- The Board approved the investment of most of the Clubs funds in a 9 month CD.
- Larry reported that that the following Car Show process documentation was completed: Parking, Ballot Bucket's, Ballot Counting and the 50/50 Raffle.
- Further to our Federal Tax exempt status application, the Board adopted a Resolution for the change in membership status, and future By-Laws revisions were discussed. These changes were sent to the IRS on August 6th, and we await their reply. We have now received their reply that Michiana Brits, Ltd is now exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(7).
- Fall Tour – Plans for a part-day side trip to St. Louis and return to Springfield, meeting point to start the tour to be discussed with Keith. This will be firmed-up and an email sent out to all members. Keith will send maps on the route to all participants. See further details on Page 4.
- Three New Board members are required for the next year, and their election will take place at the October General/Dinner Meeting. Please email your nominations to Larry Palguta by September 15, so that Ballot Forms can then be sent out to members. Completed Ballot Forms should be emailed to Larry or passed to him at the October General/Dinner Meeting.

And that's what turns your wheels!!

BRITISH CAR OPEN FIELD DAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

Sponsored by Northern Indiana AHCA

& The Lemon Creek Farms

Where: Lemon Creek Winery.
533 E. Lemon Creek Rd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103-9714
Show Time: 11:00am - 6:00pm

For members going to this show: we will meet for breakfast at 8:30am at the JD s' Gas Station/diner located at the US 12 interchange of the 31 Bypass. After breakfast, we will all then caravan onto the show.

The Lemon Creek Winery will charge the usual admission fee/cover charge ($25) and also $5 for a wine glass for those who decide to sample the wine. **They are prohibiting any beer at the show and will be checking coolers of all who attend the show.** The Lemon Creek Winery has only a wine license and cannot permit beer on the premises. Also there have been problems with some of the people who brought in beer last year. You can take along camp chairs, soft drinks and/or water.

Michiana Brits 4-Day Fall Trip – September 17 to 20th

All - its time to make your reservations for the Fall Tour to Springfield, IL. If you plan to go on the Tour, please send an email immediately to Keith Wishmeier (CKWISHMEIER@cs.com) and also make your hotel reservations by September 1st. Below are all the trip details:

When: September 17-20, 2009.

Where: West of South Bend to Springfield, IL and return to South Bend; Sept. 17th and 20th are travel days.

Where to meet: Thursday Sept. 17th at 7:30 AM (South Bend time) for breakfast at Jennie Rae's Restaurant (219-778-4100) located near the northwest corner of the intersection of US 20 and IN State Route 2 (northeast of LaPorte). After breakfast, we will leave around 8:30 AM (South Bend time) and head west on State Rt. 2 to LaPorte then Valparaiso to US 30 west. Note - Jennie Rae's is on central time (Chicago time).

Hotel: The Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center. 6th Street and Stevenson Drive, Springfield
website: www.rt66hotel.com/
Michiana Brits' special rate is $66.00 per night + tax (Thursday, Friday & Saturday).

To book a room: call and ask for Judy at 888-707-8366.
Say room is for Michiana Brits to get special rate; try to book before Sept. 1st if possible. Hotel has dining, indoor pool, Route 66 memorabilia.

Activities: Friday 18th - we can visit Lincoln sites and the Dana House (Frank Lloyd Wright House).
For Saturday 19th we have three options :

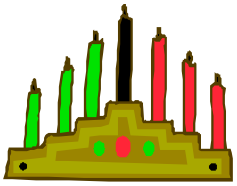
1) Continue sight seeing in Springfield,
2) Go on drive down old Route 66 and along the Mississippi River.

3) Drive part of old Route 66 to visit Jim & Stacy Weddle (Kai Shepherd's sister & brother-in-law) in St. Louis - relax at Weddle home and/or shopping, and/or visit Jim's car collection of ~25 cars of which about half are British. Both trips 2) and 3) will return to Springfield by early evening.

Please call Keith (574-250-6992) if you have any questions.

It is the responsibility for all members going on this trip to call the hotel and book their room.

Christmas/Hanukkah Party



The Board is looking for a host home for the annual 2009 Christmas/Hanukkah Party. Those interested in offering their home, please contact Maurice (574)231-1565.

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

So this month the topic is: TPMS

What does TPMS stand for? Tire Pressure Monitoring System.

As part of the effort to increase awareness of the need to maintain *proper tire pressure*, the US Government has taken steps to make it easier for drivers to be aware of potentially unsafe low pressure in their tires. As of the 2008 model year, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTAS) now requires that all passenger cars and light trucks include a Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS).

In conjunction with the new requirements, the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers (AAM) has initiated a consumer safety campaign focusing on the importance of maintaining proper tire pressure. The Alliance has launched the website www.checkmytires.com, which features resources to increase understanding of TPMS and the need to maintain proper tire pressure.

Currently on the market there are two methods of monitoring air pressure systems, that are direct or indirect. Direct TPMS monitors the actual tire pressure inside each tire via a sensor mounted within the tire. Indirect TPMS measures tire pressure by monitoring the speed and rotation of each individual wheel. When a significant variation in speed and rotation is detected in one or more wheels when compared with the others, it is often an indication of underinflation. This information is then transmitted to the vehicles on-board computer, and the driver is alerted.

However, while TPMS systems offer increased safety to drivers through low pressure warnings, there are not meant to be a substitute for proper tire pressure maintenance. Both the NHTSA and the AAM urge drivers to check their tire pressures at least once a month and always prior to a long trip. In addition, to making drivers aware of the new standard for TPMS, the "Check My Tires" website also offers a "how to" list for proper tire inflation, explanations of the various reasons why the correct tire pressure is important, and links to a number of safety-related resources.

Although TPMS has only recently become standard to all vehicles, a number of older models already have them installed. Approximately 20% of 2006 models came pre-equipped with TPMS, and that number increased to 70% in the 2007 model year. If you are unaware if your vehicle has TPMS installed, check your vehicle owner's manual.

The following article has been submitted by Club Members Jeff and Jan Zorn on trips that they arrange to the U.K. Anyone interested, please directly contact Jeff or Jan Zorn.

LBCarCo
Travel "Adventures"

By Jeff & Jan Zorn of Little British Car Company

We have been leading groups of British car fans on trips to England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and France since 2002. These trips started as a one-time event for one of our local car clubs and turned into an annual event, with many repeat travelers. Now, because Jan is retiring from her other job, we can offer additional trips during the year. If you or group from your club is interested in a UK tour with like-minded people, read on.

When we started this we knew nothing about putting together flights, hotels, meals, tours and activities for a group. We learned as we went along, had fun doing it (with a few glitches along he way) and made a lot of new friends. We continue to do these trips because we enjoy both the planning and the results – and others seem to enjoy the results as measured by the number of repeat travelers.

From the beginning, we knew that we wanted to keep prices reasonable and strive to provide good value during each two week trip. Since airfare is a large part of the cost of a trip across the pond, we figure you might as well stay for a while once you're there! We wanted to include some activities related to Britain's auto heritage, but we don't limit our days to that. It's a mix of famous sights and some experiences off the beaten path. Unlike a lot of tours, we don't move around a lot. On each trip we stay in 2 or 3 spots for multiple nights and make day trips, returning each night to a familiar hotel. We have found that the following are the important elements of a successful group trip.

Coach & Driver
We use local UK coach companies who provide safe, well maintained and comfortable touring coaches. It's wonderful to sit back in a comfortable seat and see over the hedgerows into the beautiful countryside. There are no driver / navigator arguments and we don't get lost. You can chat, read, sleep or even watch a movie – imagine "The Hound of the Baskervilles" during a morning drive through mist shrouded countryside. The driver is an important part of the coach experience and we have some great drivers we continue to use.

Accommodations
Because we stay several nights in one location, we want to have accommodations you enjoy returning to at the end of a day. We do a lot of research to find 3 star hotels you will enjoy and we use smaller family owned hotels or regional hotel groups whenever possible. Settings vary from center of town to countryside and coast. We don't expect 5 star amenities, but accommodations must be clean and comfortable, and provide a good breakfast. Friendly, helpful staff from the front desk to the bar is something we also look for.

Activities
While everyone on our trips enjoys classic cars, our groups don't visit every auto-related museum or factory that we can find. On our trips we have visited famed car collections in Coventry, Brooklands and Beaulieu, but also auto jumbles and homey private collections in the Yorkshire Dales, Ireland and Wales. We have also gone on train trips and boat cruises, visited distilleries and cideries, attended plays, gone on city walking tours, enjoyed wine and whisky tastings, toured mines, listened to local musicians, gone karting, visited castles, had more than one cream tea, visited great museums, and dined at the Eiffel Tower. We have visited more than our share of pubs, are usually on the lookout for antiques, can't resist street markets, and always manage to find the best local fish & chips shop. And we leave some time free for sightseeing on your own or just plain relaxing and socializing.

The People
You already know that British car people are great and on our trips you'll get to know folks from all across the US and Canada.

What you get
In general, you get a two week trip with round trip airfare from an airport near your hometown, accommodation based on double occupancy, all breakfasts, some lunches and dinners, deluxe coach transportation, and all fees and admissions for all group sightseeing and activities. We also provide a comprehensive guidebook in advance. You need to pay out of pocket for other lunches and dinners, drinks, tips, and any personal sightseeing. Our current price is $3,400 per person based on double occupancy. We have compared our prices with other offerings and believe that we offer a good value for the price.

Sound interesting? Here are some itineraries we are looking into for trips in 2010 and 2011.

Heart of England and Northern Wales

Yorkshire & Cumbria – Dales & Lakes, Western Ireland, Cotswolds & Cornwall, Scottish Highland Fling

If you or your club are interested in finding out more, please e-mail Jan at jan@LBCarCo.com.

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