

May, 2023

Oil Spots

A Newsletter of the Plateau British Car Club



The Prez Sez

Chris and Michelle Schoening met in high school (Shawano, WI). Chris has worked in the auto body and collision repair business for 45 yrs. Michelle is a dispensing optician. Their first sports car was a '79 Triumph Spitfire. They currently own two Jaguar XJS convertibles. They left Oshkosh WI, in 2004 and spent six years in Cottonwood, AZ before moving to TN. They now live on Wonder Lake near Sparta with their cats. They enjoy gardening and are looking forward to do some traveling.

Thought for the day..... IF YOUR CAR COULD TRAVEL AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT, WOULD YOUR HEADLIGHTS STILL WORK?



Oil Spots is the official monthly publication of the **Plateau British Car Club of Tennessee**. Material is actively solicited for the newsletter and every effort will be made to use appropriate material from the membership. Unsolicited material from non-members is also encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit for length and appropriateness. No placement of material is guaranteed. Your contributions should be submitted to: dprainey@att.net

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month prior to publication.

PBCC Officers and Support Positions

Chris Schoening - President - 89xjs@live.com - 865.228.9341
Tim Beaton - Vice President - tjbeaton07@gmail.com - 701.361.4751
Edna Horony - Treasurer/flowers - ednahorony@gmail.com -
931.261.6943
Pat Rainey - Secretary - dprainey@att.net - 256.486.8605
Tom Neckvatal - Member at Large/Membership chairman -
tneckvatal@gmail.com - 612.719.7409
Barry Brown - Member at Large/Events Coordinator -
barry@barrybrownimages.com - 931.261.3882
Dennis Rainey - Immediate Past President/newsletter editor -
dprainey@att.net - 256.744.4909
Vanessa Wynn - Regala Miester - shyhill@aol.com- 615.585.5999
Paul Barker - Webmaster - barkerpa@gmail.com - 423.442.4482

All British Cars/Owners Welcome

The Plateau British Car Club was created to band together owners of the Little British Cars (LBC) to provide a way of exchanging ideas, technical data, amusing stories, and just plain fun. All LBC owners are invited to enjoy the "LBC experience" to the fullest with friends. Ownership of an British car is not required for membership, but non-British car owners are classified as Associate members and have no voting rights

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The Membership Chair report.

Scheduling a planning meeting with Chris to discuss a marketing plan to boost community identity and build membership. Some notable ideas include,

1. Car shows connected to festivals
2. Memberships in Chamber of Commerce - Done
3. Design and print a brochure
4. Cooperative car shows with other clubs

Additional ideas welcome. Please contact Tom Neckvatal , membership chairman with your input. All suggestions considered.

Classified ads on the website are free to members in good standing of the Plateau British Car Club.

All others must pay \$10.00 (with submission of the ad) for 3 months minimum. Maximum 40 words per classified ad. Ads may run three consecutive months, and again after a two month hiatus, upon re-submission to the Editor at dprainey@att.net. Commercial advertising rates are based on camera-ready copy (electronic or hard copy). The rates are: Full Page- \$130/year, \$70/6 months, \$45/3 months; Half Page-\$75/year, \$45/6 months, \$24/3 months; or Quarter Page-\$45/year, \$30/6 months, \$15/3 months. Ad copy (commercial or classified) and payment must be submitted to the Editor by the 20th of the month prior to publication. All copy and advertising material is accepted and published in good faith. The Plateau British Car Club, its officers and the Editor of the Oil Spots expressly disclaim responsibility for any and all consequences that may arise from the publication and/or use of any material. Opinions expressed by contributors are their own, and not necessarily those of the Plateau British Car Club of Tennessee, its officers and/or the Editor.

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What's a DPO???

If you own one or more of any one of the various LBC marques, then there is a very good chance that you have one or more of these “DPOs”. Is it a part or a collection of parts on your car that you haven’t been able to identify and maybe always wondered what it was and what it does? Is it one of those funny little terms that the Brits use from time to time to make you listen a little closer? If your first answer was “Democratic Party of Oregon” then you might be a politician. Or, if you said “Days Payable Outstanding” then chances are that you’re a bean counter. You might have said “Why that’s easy, that stands for “Direct Public Offering”. This guy is a stock broker. How about “Delta Phi Omega”. You’re probably a southern Florida college sorority student.

Okay, okay...I’m finally ready to let you off the hook. It stands for “Dumb Previous Owner”. As I said, it’s something that most of us have and we probably think of him or her from time to time when we are having to correct something they did to your car in it’s previous life. You’ve probably used a few expressions to describe this guy, too. Most of which are not printable. I’ll bet terms like “What was this guy thinking” is often heard in the garage when trying to sort something out or “what is this thing”.

As an example of what I’m talking about, I found this interesting letter from a frustrated LBC owner and decided to share it with you:

Dear DPO,

Finally pulled the motor/tranny from the car I bought from you. Really strange that the darn thing didn't just jump right out onto the pavement. Why? Well, first off, the motor mounts need more than 2 bolts each in them, and you should try to use lock washers in the future, preferably new.

Add to that, the tranny to block bolts...count the holes....2 starter bolts and 3 long bolts just isn't a good thing! Well, at least you used lock washers on two of these. And what's with the thin threaded rod from the block to the tranny cross-member...if you are going to make a "Stayrod" at least make it from something solid...and fill in all the crossmember bolt holes...

Good to see you at least filled all the bolt holes and used lock washers on the drive (prop) shaft. Have a good day, and thanks for letting me take this car away from you saving it from an early death.

BTW...since is it so thickly covered in grease and gunk...without using a pressure washer, what do you recommend using to clean the engine and tranny?

Sincerely, XXXXX

I'm sure there are many of you that have your own "DPO" stories and this is an excellent place to share them. Some can be very funny and some sorta sad. But one thing is certain, this is a good place to learn from the experiences of others and hopefully avoid becoming a future "DPO" yourself.

Please send your experience/story to the editor and get it into the newsletter.

Cheers—Dennis

From Steve Phillips, Member of PBCC and franchise owner of several area NAPA Auto Parts stores including here in Crossville and in his home town of Cookeville.

"I'm glad to offer a 10% discount for any NAPA-source parts to PBCC members. My Cookeville store does have an account with Moss Motors. If you are at a different location than Cookeville just ask the store manager to work with you."

PBCC Treasurer's Report Edna Horony

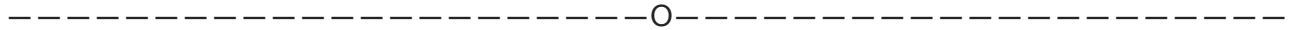
		PBCC	Financials		
April 1, 2023 Beginning Balance	Income	Donations	Non-Cash Donations	Expenses	Total
\$1,068.41					\$1,068.41
Membership Dues					
Office Supplies					
Flowers/Cards					
Printing Flyers for Rugby				(\$19.21)	(\$19.21)
Annual Web Page				(\$166.87)	(\$166.87)
Donation for Chamber Membership		\$150.00			\$150.00
Chamber of Commerce Membership				(\$150.00)	(\$150.00)
Total for Month					\$1,049.20

A great big **THANK YOU** to Abe & Rhonda DeGraaf for their generous contribution to provide first year membership in the local Chamber of Commerce

To the readership - It is difficult to come up with enough material to fill out a reasonably sized newsletter to which I believe everyone deserves. Therefore, I plead with the membership to submit more articles of interest for inclusion. I know there are several great stories out there such as, "How I found my car?", "The best LBC trip I've taken, "Problems I've encountered and solved, or "The history of my car(s)". There is an endless wealth of printable material within our own membership. I know that it's there because I've heard some of the stories and I'm certain that others would enjoy them, too. So, think about something that you can write about and submit it for

publishing. You don't need to worry about spelling, grammar, or punctuation; that is my job as editor.

Thanks —Ed.



Breaking News

Clark Kent here, reporting from the hills and valleys of the Smoky Mountain area. It's May the 13th and we are getting steady reports of strange little cars being driven by equally strange, perpetually grinning, drivers spotted on the highway to Townsend, TN. Local residents have been reporting hearing raspy exhaust notes, sounds of squealing tires and an occasional "WHOO HOO" and "YEE HAW". Early reports indicate that there are many of these strange little cars, but one unidentified source was quoted as saying that many more would have taken part were they not suffering from a critical case of "Procrastinators Syndrome"*. More on the 10:00 p.m. news.

* Treatment for "Procrastinators Syndrome" is available from your local Plateau British Car Club. Caution: Side effects may include beautiful scenery, exhilarating roads, good times with fellow club members. PBCCers experiencing grins lasting longer than four hours should consult their doctor immediately. Or, make sure that you attend this years "Springtime in the Smokies" to be included in this outrageous fun. See the flyer for this event on the club's website at PBCCTN.org.

Plateau British Car Club Quarterly meeting - April 10, 2023

Opening:

- Chris Schoening, President opened the meeting and asked for items pertaining to old business. Hearing none, Chris asked the club treasurer, Edna Horony for a treasury report.

Treasury Report:

- Edna noted that the current club balance is \$1068.41. There are some anticipated expenses related to the annual Rugby car show, such as flyers and

other initial expenses. As Barbara Mitchell noted, most of those expenses will be covered by the income generated by the show.

- The Browns asked if the club had settled up with the servers at the PBCC Holiday party who had not received tips from club members. Unfortunately, there were members who did not realize that the tip was not included in their bill. This task has inadvertently been neglected. The Browns agreed to follow up and notify Edna that the two servers, Sarah and Lisa Marie, are still working and are the ones to receive the additional tips. If so, the club had previously agreed to spend a total of \$100 for this purpose.

Membership:

- In the absence of the Membership Chair, Chris reported that the membership roster now includes 33 families. Rhonda DeGraaf asked if there was an associate membership available for those who no longer owned a British car, but who wanted to join in club activities. Dennis Rainey explained that the club by-laws state that owning a British car is not required. Therefore, anyone submitting the annual dues is invited to participate.

- Chris reminded the group that increasing participation and group membership is always important. Therefore, he offered business cards to attending members to share with individuals they may encounter who might be interested. In addition, each primary club member received a magnet with the club logo that should be displayed on the member's car on every sponsored event. Cars belonging to non-club members will be required to sign the club waiver prior to participating in any activities or drives.

Events:

- Springtime in the Smokies is the next event, held in Townsend. Dennis will organize and publish a caravan traveling over on the late afternoon of May 12. Chris reminded members that the Silent Auction needs donations (even non-car related items) to help the event raise money for the designated charities. Jim Watson added that the event is looking for help to coordinate the silent auction. The Rigbys have held this position for many years and will take a well deserved retirement from the task. Jim also mentioned that the silent auction at this event will list a 'Buy it now' price to allow individuals to pay a bit more to take an item home early.

- Chris reminded member that the Rugby event also has a Silent Auction that needs donations. He offered to gather items, if members will contact him. At the first Rugby planning meeting, Chris offered to assist with planning, pricing, and selling at the auction. However, he has not offered to relieve the Rigbys in this task. The position for a permanent chair person for this piece of the event remains open.

Discussion and vote on membership in the Crossville Chamber of Commerce:

- Chris listed the benefits that this Chamber of Commerce membership could offer the club. Much discussion ensued. Abe and Rhonda DeGraaf graciously offered to donate the \$150 fee to allow the club a year to determine how this membership benefited the club.

Drives and Ideas:

- Chris offered two drives that he and Tim Beaton have been developing. The first is along country roads toward the north and seems to fit best for a fall colors tour. The second is toward McMinnville to see waterfalls and tour a cave there. This event would require a time schedule and reservations for the cave tour. The group seemed interested and Chris/Tim will look at a date in the future.

- The Plateau Corvette Club has again asked our club to participate in a car show at Fairfield Glade on June 17. Chris encouraged all members to put this on their calendar. It is a good event and all PBCC participants enjoyed this last year.

- As a potential event in July, Chris offered to organize a drive to Smithville for the jamboree there. This includes a nationwide fiddlers contest and fireworks in the evening.

Flatrock:

- This new track, being built just at the end of the county, will have both 'track days' and 'club days' that PBCC members will may want to note. As the venue builds, Chris will continue to give updates.

Stump the mechanic:

- Chris and Jim offered to help members solve mechanical issues that they may have. No member seemed to need assistance at this time. However, Mari Leedy mentioned that she, and probably others, have various tools that other members may want to borrow. Mari suggested that the club may want to itemize a 'library' of tools that are available, if needed.
- As a side note, Barry Brown mentioned that he had multiple shop guides and books that he would be willing to donate if the club found a place to store those.

Member discussion:

- Steve Phillips addressed the membership with the idea that members and interested parties might participate in a more focused purpose to the group. Steve shared a recent interaction with a group who is focusing on helping veterans in the area with food, clothing, and housing. The idea was discussed among attending members who seemed to be interested in having a cause in addition to Historic Rugby. Members offered possible options and offered to consider having additional charities to support.
- Steve Garland shared the activities of the Crossville Cruise club. This group has car show events on the fourth Saturday of every summer month. Both Steve and Mari are active in this group. In addition, there is a cruise-in planned for April 22. Interested members should arrive by 2:00 p.m. at the Crossville Dairy Queen on Main Street for the 3:00 p.m show.
- Steve Phillips also announced that there would be a music festival next Spring in Wilder. He recommended that the group consider this event.
- Rhonda DeGraaf announced that there would be a car show on May 27, lakeside at Lake Tansi.

Next meeting:

- The July meeting date and location is yet to be determined. Chris offered the idea of a picnic location on July 15. He will work with the Board to solidify the date, time, and location.

Close of meeting:

- Tim Beaton moved that the meeting be adjourned, the move was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted - Pat Rainey, PBCC Secretary



Membership to the Plateau British Car Club is open to anyone interested in British vehicles.

- You do not need to own an immaculately restored British vehicle to join the club.
- You do not need to drive a British vehicle to come to club events.
- You do not even need to own a British vehicle to join the club.
- You do not have to refer to hoods as "bonnets" and wrenches as "spanners".
- You do not need to drink Earl Grey tea or warm beer.
- You do need to have fun.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE BEFORE TAKING ON A REPAIR OF LUCAS EQUIPMENT: CHECK THE POSITION OF THE STARS, KILL A CHICKEN AND WALK THREE TIMES SUNWISE AROUND YOUR CAR CHANTING: "OH MIGHTY PRINCE OF DARKNESS PROTECT YOUR UNWORTHY SERVANT."

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A Note from our Past President Charlie Bunnell

Greetings,

So, some changes have occurred since our last update. Nothing earth-shattering, but part of the disease's progression.

1. Change in sleeping med as old one wasn't effective all night.
2. Shortness of breath has increased, which causes tiredness and is aggravated by not sleeping well.
3. To ease all that, I am now taking a small dose (.125ml) ml morphine twice a day. I've been doing that a couple of days and it has made a world of difference. Sleeping, walking, breathing, talking, etc, all much improved. Still doing breathing treatments, physical exercises, and using computer.

That's about it. Oh, I've been told my disposition has improved also.

Charlie/Chuck Bunnell