

October, 2023 Edition

Oil Spots

A Newsletter of the Plateau British Car Club



THE PREZ SEZ

Normally this section of our monthly newsletter is reserved for the PBCC president to make a few comments. However, for this month's issue, the editor will use it in an attempt to explain some recent and unexpected changes in the club officers' structure.

As most members know by this time, Chris Schoening tendered his resignation as PBCC president on Saturday the 23rd of September for personal reasons. By default, this requires that the vice-president assume the remainder of the president's term until the club has the opportunity to elect new officers.

According to the club by-laws, the process for nominating and electing new officers annually is that the board will assemble a slate of candidates (any paid member is eligible for an officer position) and that slate will then be presented to the general membership to be voted on during the club's annual meeting held in January of each year. The more candidates for each position the better. The new officers will assume their roles effective on the first day of February of each year.

Therefore, as vice-president, Tim Beaton steps into the role as president pro-tem for the balance of the term.

Let's all make every effort to support Tim in this role, and at the same time, wish Chris the very best for the future.

Thanks - Ed

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

Tim Beaton - President (pro tem)- 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.

[Membership applications are available on the club website at PBCCTN.org](#)

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September Treasurer's Report - Edna Horony

The Therapeutic Value of An LBC

		PBCC	Financials	
1-Sep-23	Income	Income	Expenses	Total
Beginning Balance	\$4,917.70			\$4,917.70
Membership Dues				
Sale of Club Trailer	\$500.00			\$500.00
Rugby Walk of Honor		\$75.00		\$75.00
Rugby Muffin Donations		\$209.35		\$209.35
Rugby T-shirt Expense			(\$256.84)	(\$256.84)
Rugby Porta-Pottie Exp			(\$251.00)	(\$251.00)
Rugby Silent Auction		\$40.00		\$40.00
Rugby In Kind Donation		\$84.99		\$84.99
Final PBCC Donation to Rugby			(\$3,853.55)	(\$3,853.55)
Total for Month	\$5,417.70	\$409.34	(\$4,361.39)	\$1,465.65

Here's something for medical science. All seriousness aside. I'm completely convinced that owning and driving a Little British Car has a very real therapeutic value

Recently, my wife and I discovered this phenomenon one evening about 9:00 p.m. when there was nothing on the TV and we decided to take our MG (Roscoe we've affectionately named it) and go for a ride. It was one of those nice cool evenings, the kind that Roscoe really seems to like. We drove along a lonely country road for about fifteen to twenty miles and didn't encounter any more than three other cars. The whole time I don't think that we uttered more than ten words between us as we were both mesmerized by the whole experience. When we finally decided that it was time to head for the barn, we agreed that this was something that we "owed" ourselves to do as often as possible.

We've done this a couple of times since and the most recent one we did talk a little more and we decided this nocturnal adventure really did have a therapeutic value. It sorta sets things straight in your head and makes the balance of the week seem like maybe you really can make it. We agreed that in addition to the therapeutic significance of the experience, it's surely safer than alcohol or something stronger. It's also safer for our dog as we are not likely to expel any pent-up aggressions on her.

So folks, it really doesn't matter what LBC you own, if things seem to be getting hectic or overwhelming, try an evening drive in your LBC. If your LBC isn't road ready, I wouldn't recommend stealing one for this experience but if there is no other way, just saying. After what seems like a week of Mondays, and the paper boy forgot to deliver your paper and the boss has been in a real foul mood for several days, the answer may very well be sitting in your garage. You might event be able to get your doctor to write you a prescription for an LBC and write it off your income tax. Take an evening LBC drive and call me in the morning....

Ed-

Ed's note - This is a story that I wrote several years ago when I was the newsletter editor of an MG Car Club in Sacramento and it is a true story which I thought was worth repeating here. Some minor details were changed for relevance.



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I ate a kid's meal at McDonalds this morning. His mom was furious.

Return of the British - 2023

On the 19th of August, 2023, The Plateau British Car Club of Tennessee, in partnership with the Blount British Car Club and the English Auto Society of Knoxville, sponsored the 12th annual “Return of the British” car show/gathering held in Rugby, TN.

The numbers have been crunched (no small feat) and the results once again show us another record setting event. There are way too many people to thank for their efforts individually. But rest assured, that your efforts are recognized and appreciated. Great job and congratulations to all are in order. Please see the Rugby financials on the next page.

	Income	Expenses	Retained by HRI	Non-Cash Donation	Total
Pre-registrations	\$935.00				\$935.00
Same day registrations	\$830.00				\$830.00
Pre-order T-shirts	\$156.00	(\$256.84)			(\$100.84)
T-shirts sold same day	\$161.00		(\$149.00)		\$12.00
Walk of Honor	\$125.00	(\$24.40)			\$100.60
Music	\$410.00	(\$400.00)			\$10.00
Silent Auction	\$2,360.00		(\$296.00)		\$2,064.00
Donations					
Century 21	\$100.00				\$100.00
50/50 Raffle	\$313.00		(\$313.00)		\$0.00
Tea Table Settings	\$180.00		(\$180.00)		\$0.00
Muffin/Coffee Jar	\$209.35				\$209.35
Hospitality Table	\$98.00		(\$98.00)		\$0.00
Anonymous Donation for Music	\$400.00		(\$400.00)		\$0.00
The Rainey's In Kind Donation	\$84.99				\$84.99
In Kind Donations (information only)					
Awards & Plaques (The Watson's)				\$557.17	
Dandy Dawg (The Leedy's)				\$50.00	
Other Expenses					
EMS		(\$50.00)			(\$50.00)
Porta Pottie		(\$221.00)			(\$221.00)
Registration Supplies		(\$60.59)			(\$60.59)
Rugby Flyers		(\$29.96)			(\$29.96)
Ice		(\$30.00)			(\$30.00)
TOTAL	\$6,362.34	(\$1,072.79)	-\$1,436.00		\$3,853.55
Event Donation From PBCC to HRI					\$3,853.55
Income Retained By HRI					\$1,436.00
HRI Total					\$5,289.55



Back in the very early days of this century when Pat and I lived in Elk Grove, CA, a suburb of Sacramento, just around the corner from our home was a car??? which you could see coming in the blizzard.

I had left the house one day for an errand and as I rounded the first corner from our house, this thing jumped out at me and I nearly wrecked my car trying to slow down for a better look. Back in those days we did have cell phones but they didn't have cameras like they do today. So, I had to turn around and go back home to get a camera because I knew that I'd never be able to explain this to anybody.

This seemed like a good place to share this for two reasons. One being that I needed something to fill the newsletter and the other because it is nearly unbelievable. My very first comment was "WHY". I went back to the scene and actually knocked on the door to ask permission to take a couple of pics but there was no answer. Maybe they were too embarrassed to acknowledge that monster in their driveway as their own, I just don't know. Anyway, I took a liberty to snap these pictures, but I think that some people still believe they were faked. You'll have to decide.

The Hummer was first marketed by AM General in the early 1990's and was later sold to General Motors in 1999. This one looks like it fell into a big vat of Pepto Bismol and then somebody liked it and added some chrome.

Anyway, you saw it here first.
Ed-

Club event ideas; a new feature of the newsletter. Be sure to share your favorite idea with the editor to include in this section of future Oil Spots Newsletters.

A COUPLE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

FIRST ONE

Monday the 16th of October will be our final quarterly meeting for 2023 at Ruby Tuesday's restaurant located at 2316 N. Main St. in Crossville across from Lowes.

The meeting will commence at 6:00 pm and run until all business is complete.

Dinner & beverages are available for purchase. Please arrive early enough to order dinner before the meeting starts.

A large attendance is encouraged.

See ya there....

NEXT

Let's go for a top down fall leaf peeping Tennessee tour on the 28th of October. We'll gather at the 7-11 station on North Main at **TBA o'clock**. First, we'll head to Westfork General store in Alpine, TN where we'll make our first stop for gas, coffee bathroom, etc. From there it is on to Livingston to kick around a bit more. They also have coffee, gas and food. Then we'll head to Monterey where there is more coffee, gas and bathrooms and a Railroad museum before we on to Bee Rock overlook. We will head home via Hwy. 70 toward Crossville. The total round trip is approximately 95 miles. This drive is through country where and when the fall colors should be spectacular. There are very twisty roads during first part and easier is on the way home. We may be full of coffee and such at the end of the tour, but this is a very doable fall drive out.

Please give Tim Beaton a head count by email, if ya would.
tjbeaton07@gmail.com.



BST - Buy, Sell or Trade

This section of the Oil spots can be used by our members to advertise items they may no longer need or want. If you've decided that car most go or you've decided to clean out your garage for example, here is a place you can let the rest of the world know. If you are trying to find that elusive part or car, this might be the place to find it.

In the case of cars, pictures are a must. The old saying, "If ya don't have pics, then it didn't happen" applies here.

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What Does It Mean... To drive an LBC, that is!

If someone came up to you and asked that question, would you be able to snap back an answer? You might first think, "What kinda question is that". But could you come up with an answer that would make sense? I have to admit that I've had to think about this one for a while.

For me there is a kinda "magic" in it. Whether it's because I talk to my car while polishing it or tightened a loose nut or checking the oil level, or if it goes back to a simpler time in automobile history, or rejects the Big

Three "Gotta buy the newest and latest undeveloped piece of Detroit machinery"---I don't know.

It could even be that it harkens back to a time of the human and horse kind of transportation, Roy Rogers and Trigger kinda thing, when there was an actual relationship between a man and his means of moving around. In some sorta quirky way, I think we sometimes view the LBC as a living entity. At our house, we have named each car we own and have done so for many years.

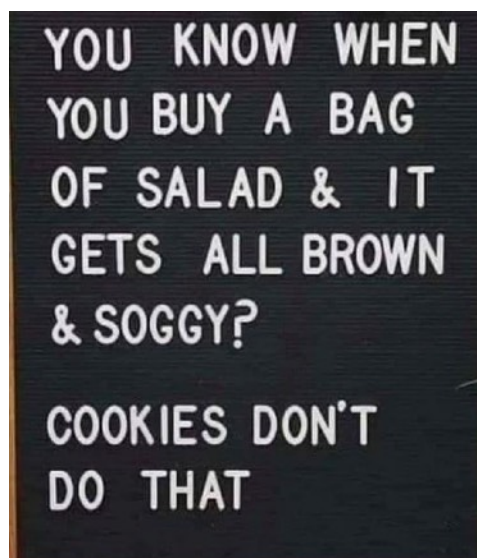
Maybe it's the memories of each time we drive our cars, the drive that we are currently enjoying and the things we've yet to do. It's kind of a continuum. Every new adventure, every drive home is another part woven into the large tapestry of our lives. On the day that we must hang up the keys, we will lose something important and personal. "...When you drop a thread, sometimes you lose the weave."

Because I've had a private pilot's license for many years, I sometimes think that I'm piloting our MG. Driving is what people do in "geezer mobiles" and their "land barges", sealed up in their cocoon, driving along with no feel of the road, no road noise, no anything that makes driving enjoyable.

I tend to believe that people who "pilot" LBCs as romantics. They have a higher than normal need for adventure, are mechanically inclined (level of expertise varies), they tend to be young for their age and are often unconventional in nature. As a group, they make good and strong friendships. They probably tend to view themselves as somewhat "distinct", but not in a bad manner. They tend to put up with limitations in their transportation that less interesting people would not.

Let us enjoy our cars and the many friendships that have developed through this "hobby", especially those that have resulted through our memberships in our respective clubs. Each and every one of us has a special reason for doing what we do - but above all in this serious world we live in, piloting a car with character brings out the fun in us and that is so very important.

Dennis L. Rainey



As you can most likely tell by this time, I'm gettin' desperate to come up with material for the Oil Spots. Therefore, I plead once again for your submissions. I know that you have stories worth sharing. Please consider sitting down at your computer and typing out a few lines to tell the rest of us a fun, or funny incident you might have experienced in the past. It doesn't have to be LBC related. You will not be "graded" on your writing skills.



the Oil Spots. once again for your that you have sharing. Please down at your pounding out a few rest of us a fun, or might have past. It doesn't

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It has been suggested that we have a "Letter to the Editor" section in our club's newsletter. This idea came to the editor from a club member in response to a recent article which appeared in the Oil Spots and was written several years ago by a very talented young lady. The article in reference appeared in the last issue (August, 2023) written by Megan Rainey. The "Letter to the Editor" portion of the Oil Spots, is your opportunity to have your voice heard. Below is that suggestion unedited.

I haven't seen a section in the newsletter for letters to the editor but, if there was one, I would want to contribute this. The article, "Let's Do Some Writing" by Megan Rainey was short, well thought out, and one of the most helpful and inspiring things I have read on the subject of writing. In only a few short paragraphs she brought home the point that everyone has a story to tell and the means to do so. She also gave some strong ideas on how to build your confidence and skills. It was truly a one page writing class and well worth reading and re-reading. - Jack Spradling

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Did you know that if you drink approximately four beers that you won't even feel guilty about how much money you spent on car parts. Science is crazy...



Update on getting another LBC back on the road!

The Neilsen's TD has a new battery, one tyre/wheel has been fixed and there is a new set of wheel bearings ready to be fitted. There has also been a successful test drive by Pat Neilsen and all seems to be lookin' up for this LBC.

With these latest efforts and a good cleanup and maybe even some detailing this rare little gem will be a shining example of what a club such as ours is all about. That was all accomplished by several club members over several "tech sessions" by sharing our collective experiences and knowledge and frankly, it was a lot of fun, including the skinned knuckles and greasy hands. Thank you to all for the experience.

Ed-



