

July 2024 Edition

OIL SPOTS

A Newsletter of the Plateau British Car Club



The Prez Sez

Well, another month, another newsletter, and another opportunity to think about things we would like to do as a club. It doesn't have to be huge, it doesn't have to be everybody, but some small drives or gatherings would be great. Of course, any and all would be invited, but the reality is we can't all be there for everything. On the other hand, all of us can be there for some things. Give it some thought, what would you like to do? Our next two major events are still a couple of months or more away. Of course, that doesn't mean we shouldn't already be making plans.

The heat is certainly upon us and it's days like these that make me envious of those with cloth seats and ac, but I don't see me giving up on the LBC that I love. What is a little discomfort? Isn't she worth it? Of course she is. Just be sure to maintain your coolant, for the car and yourself.

Sorry I wasn't able to make it to our last show. But, Dennis said we had a decent turn out of British cars at the Corvette event. We so much appreciate being invited to attend.

Hope to see everyone soon. Safe driving!

- Jack

I'm pretty sure I had a great night last night. Let me finish reading the police report and I'll let you know.

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

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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 a 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.

The membership chairperson reports four new members for this issue, They are Tony & Pat Orlando and returning members Robin and Jeanne George. We presently have 26 pay members

[Membership applications for 2024 are available on the club website at PBCCTN.org](http://PBCCTN.org)

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May Treasurer's Report - Edna Horony

PBCC MAY 2024 FINANCIALS



1-31 May 2024	Income	Expenses	Total
Beginning Balance	\$1,206.53		\$1,206.53
Membership Dues	\$25.00		\$25.00
PBCC Hat Sales	\$40.00		\$40.00
Total for Month	\$1,271.53		\$1,271.53

**Here's one for ya to ponder...
Ever wonder why almost all races run counterclockwise?
Let me know your answer and I'll post it in the next
edition of the Oil Spots!**

Cruisin' into Summer - Report

On Saturday the 15th of June, the Plateau Corvette Club hosted their annual car show in Fairfield Glade, TN. The weather decided that it would be as nice as possible. The event was open to all cars and was very well attended. In addition to a wide variety of cars, there were vendors offering home made ice cream, Philadelphia cheese steak sandwiches, and music and much more.

This year, the event hosts did something a little different from their past years' shows. They organized the classes of cars by their marque or origins, for our cars i.e. "imports". The organizers again gave us the best parking on the field, in the shade.

In our class, we had twelve cars made up of nearly all PBCC members. I believe that we may have picked up one, maybe two new members.

Hopefully, we'll be invited back next year too.





Feel like ya need a road trip???



America seems to have a love affair with the open road. In 1956, the creation of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways further paved the way for uninterrupted automobile journeys throughout the contiguous United States. Today, a network of over 46,000 miles of highways zigzags from north to south and coast to coast, connecting dozens of towns, cities, states, and natural landmarks along the way. Curious about which roadways stretch the furthest? Buckle up and embark on epic road trips on some of the longest highways in the United States.

U.S. Route 12 – 2,484 Mile

Credit: Getty Images



Created in 1926, U.S. Route 12 traverses 2,484 miles across the northern U.S. from Detroit, Michigan, to Aberdeen, Washington. Large parts of the route follow the historic Yellowstone Trail, which was the first east-to-west automobile highway through the northern states. On its journey across nine states, U.S. Route 12 navigates varied landscapes like the canyons and cedar forests of Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest and the buttes and badlands of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. It also cuts through the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, a 2.3-million-acre area of prairies and rolling hills that's home to the Lakota and Dakota nations.

Interstate 40 – 2,555 Miles



Credit: [Bilanol](#)

The western terminus of Interstate 40 is found in Barstow, California, which was part of the historic Route 66 and is now home to the Route 66 Mother Road Museum.

Traveling east, Interstate 40 heads through eight states on its way to Wilmington, a seaside city in North Carolina. A mix of breathtaking landscapes, bustling cities, and important cultural sites are found along the length of the 2,555-mile highway. Among them are Grand Canyon National Park and Acoma Pueblo, a Native American community set atop a mesa in New Mexico. Interstate 40 also provides easy access to the Blue Ridge Parkway, a 469-mile scenic drive through the Appalachian Mountains that's billed as "America's Favorite Drive."

U.S. Route 2 – 2,571 Miles



Credit: [David R. Frazier Photolibrary, Inc.](#)

Nicknamed the “Great Northern” after the pioneering railroad route that runs parallel to its western section, U.S. Route 2 spans 10 states, plus a segment in Canada. The eastern section begins at the border town of Houlton, Maine, then passes through the lush landscapes of New Hampshire and Vermont to Rouse Point, New York. The highway continues to Montreal and Ottawa in Canada, before returning to the United States in St. Ignace, Michigan, on the shores of Lake Huron. The western section passes through the wide-open spaces of the Great Plains and over to the Cascade Mountains near Everett, Washington. From bustling cities to Victoria-era villages and national parks, there’s plenty to see along the

way, including Glacier National Park and the Hiawatha National Forest.

U.S. Route 60 – 2,670 Miles



Credit: Jeff Greenberg/ Universal Images Group via Getty Images

Completed in 1926, U.S. Route 60 meanders for 2,670 miles across the country from Virginia Beach, Virginia, to Brenda, Arizona. The original idea was for the highway to link Chicago with Los Angeles, but that plan later took shape as the famous Route 66. A trip on U.S. Route 60 offers excellent opportunities for both outdoor adventure and cultural experiences. For example, you'll find stunning views over the Phoenix valley via the Echo Canyon Hike, which skirts Camelback Mountain. In Oklahoma, Bartlesville is famous for its art deco buildings, including Frank Lloyd Wright's Price Tower.

Interstate 80 – 2,899 Miles



Credit: PapaBear/ iStock via Getty Images

Interstate 80 connects two of the largest metropolitan areas in the United States — New York City and San Francisco — located on opposite coasts. This transcontinental route crosses 11 states and retraces historic emigrant routes. One of these is the California Trail, which mountain explorers and fur traders used to travel between Missouri and California during the 1840s and 1850s. Dozens of interesting and offbeat attractions are scattered along Interstate 80 today. Ohio's Cuyahoga Valley National Park, the “World’s Largest Time Capsule” in Nebraska, and the Tahoe National Forest in California’s Sierra Nevada Mountains are all worth a detour.

U.S. Route 50 – 3,019 Miles



Credit: [Tashka](#)/ iStock via Getty Images

Stretching from Ocean City, Maryland to Sacramento, California, U.S. Route 50 incorporates some of the country's most mesmerizing landscapes. Along the highway, road trippers will encounter the Appalachian, Rocky, and Sierra Nevada mountain ranges, in addition to the Great Plains. Noteworthy sights include California's Lake Tahoe and the rocky wonderlands of Utah's Arches and Canyonlands National Parks. In Nevada, a barren 300-mile stretch of the highway through the Great Basin Desert is dubbed "the Loneliest Road in America." Also in Nevada, drivers can discover the historic cowboy culture of Lone Pine, which has been the backdrop for western movies since 1939's Gunga Din

starring Cary Grant, and intriguing natural sites like the speleothem-rich Lehman Caves and singing dunes of Sand Mountain.

Interstate 90 – 3,020 Miles



From the shorelines of Lake Erie and Lake Michigan (two of the Great Lakes) to the Great Plains of North Dakota and the Rocky Mountains, Interstate 90 passes through many areas of breathtaking natural beauty. This east-west highway starts in Boston, travels through 13 states in the northern United States and ends in Seattle, Washington. If you choose to drive the entire length, you will cross spectacular mountain passes like Washington's Snoqualmie Pass, Lookout Pass on the Idaho-Montana border, and Montana's Homestake Pass, where the highway reaches an elevation of 6,329 feet above sea level. Other notable places along the way include Minnesota's 55-foot-tall Jolly Green Giant Statue, Mount

Rushmore National Monument, and the Garnet ghost town in Montana.

U.S. Route 30 – 3,073 Miles



Credit: [Stefano Politi Markovina](#)

Another highway that connects the country's Atlantic and Pacific coastlines is U.S. Route 30. This long-distance roadway starts in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and ends in Astoria, Oregon. A significant stretch between Pennsylvania and Wyoming follows the historic Lincoln Highway, including the 200-mile Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor in Pennsylvania. The Lincoln Highway Experience in Latrobe offers the chance to delve into highway nostalgia. Other standout sights include curious roadside attractions such as The Coffee Pot in Bedford, Pennsylvania, and the Haines Shoe House in York, which can be rented for an overnight stay.

U.S. Route 6 – 3,207 Miles



Credit: [Hank Erdmann](#)

U.S. Route 6 begins in [Provincetown](#), Massachusetts, near the site of the iconic Mayflower landing in 1620. It then traverses 14 states on its way to Bishop, California. In 1953, the route was given the name “Grand Army of the Republic Highway” to commemorate Civil War veterans. Those traveling on the highway today can discover everything from the dune-clad beaches of [Cape Cod National Seashore](#) to the adrenaline-pumping switchbacks of Loveland Pass on the Continental Divide. Popular stops include Pennsylvania’s [Cherry Springs State Park](#) for [stargazing](#) in a Dark Sky Preserve and Cleveland’s [Rock and Roll Hall of Fame](#).

U.S. Route 20 – 3,365 Miles



Credit: Unknown

Linking Kenmore Square in Boston, Massachusetts, with the Pacific coast town of Newport, Oregon, U.S. Route 20 is the longest highway in the United States. Over its 3,365-mile coast-to-coast journey, it runs mostly parallel to Interstate 90 and passes through 12 states. From the rural pastures of Pennsylvania and Ohio to the Rocky Mountains, U.S. 20 offers a fascinating glimpse of the country's ever-changing landscapes. Many natural wonders lay scattered along the route, including the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, [Yellowstone National Park](#), and [Yaquina Bay State Recreational Site](#).

So, What say we go for a drive....Ed

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

Plateau British Car Club

Proposed Schedule of Events - 2024

(Listed in chronological order)

- 07/06 - **Breakfast/drive out at Bramble Berry Cafe Details TBA***
- 07/11 - 3rd Otr. PBCC Meeting, Grandy's B&G - 5:30 pm TBA*
- 07/17 - **Winery Visit, Bristow Rd. Winery - details TBA***
- 08/17 - Return of the British Car Show/Gathering. See flyer below.

*TBA via PBCC FB page

We will add to and update this schedule as and when we have additional events or changes to the schedule. We are, after all, a driving club.

Pre-registration is now open

This year we are doing this a little different than we have in the past. Pre-registration is available on-line by going to

[Click here for registration](#)



Return of the
BRITISH

13th Edition of a British Car Gathering
AUGUST 16-18, 2024
Historic Rugby, TN
Cars displayed: Aug. 17 - 9 to 2:30 EDT
Awards, Silent Auction, Tea Settings & More
Come for the weekend!

VISIT HISTORICRUGBY.ORG FOR REGISTRATION

Net Proceeds Benefit Historic Rugby, Inc.
KEEPING TENNESSEE & BRITISH HISTORY ALIVE

Connect with old
friends and make new
ones



Making Contributions to the *Oil Spots*

Your stories, photos, tech tips, questions and anything LBC or PBCC related are always welcome in the *Oil Spots*. Please make your contributions to the editor by the 20th of the month preceding the issue in which you would like to see them appear. You may email them to Dennis Rainey at dprainey@att.net.

The *Oil Spots* is, of course, the official news letter of the Plateau British Car Club. It is not the only form of communication that the club is using, nor should it be. Its purpose is pretty straight forward as it is intended to keep the membership abreast of what's going on within the club and to provide a measure of entertainment. Another widely used form of communication is the club's web site and its function is very similar to the news letter. It is an excellent method of checking event schedules and related information. The third method being employed by the club is the mass email announcements which you receive periodically. Once again, this method is used to alert the membership to changes in schedules and to act as reminders of events about to take place. All three methods overlap considerably, and all three have their needed place. Please make sure that you use of all three of these methods and you won't be left behind.—Thanks Ed.

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 must 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. If you are successful using this section for selling, please let the editor know that your ad can be removed.

Put A Lid On It (or a Hat)

There are still some of these beautiful hats available. This hat is designed to provide protection from the harsh sun rays while putting on display your proud membership in our club. If you should be so inclined to break loose of the paltry sum of just \$20 USD, then you'll look good anywhere you go. These great hats can be purchased through our club's treasurer, Edna Horony, by sending her a check made out to PBCC. Edna's snail mail address is 195 S. Summerhaven Dr. Crossville, TN 38555. Edna then will bring your hat/s to the next gathering.





What was your most unexpected problem with your LBC?

Our mission was to attend Springtime in the Smokies in Townsend, TN. During our drive to Townsend, one of our stops was to visit a cute little store in Maryville, Owned by one of our members' daughter. We all parked in the parking lot ready to enjoy a welcomed rest. But, something very unexpected occurred when we parked. The ignition key and tumbler fell out in my hand. This was a new experience for me, not knowing exactly what to do. So, I held the key and tumbler into the fixture while restarting the car. (Needless to say, we did not stay to see the store.) We decided to continue our trip to Townsend, even though Murphy's law had fallen into play.

So, while I was continuously holding the key and tumbler in place with my right hand and steering with my left hand, It occurred to me that I would be unable to shift MGB. Thankfully my wingman was able to shift the car with her left hand all the way to Townsend. (We both remember our time in helicopters that a master caution light means OS, this is critical).

And by the way, she had been holding the passenger mirror with her right hand since Kingston because it had also come loose. So for the next 35 miles we were holding the car together with all 4 of our hands.

At Townsend we gorilla taped the ignition key to the cowling in order to get back to Crossville the following day. So now we will always expect the unexpected. There is more than oil that runs out of your British car.

-Alex Horony





THE GREAT SCHOOL BUS SAGA

This is a true adventure story that I thought was worth sharing and I needed something to fill space in The Oil Spots.

This story takes place in during the fall of 2018 in Clarks Summit, PA. Each fall, Pat and I have taken what we have come to call our “Fall Foliage Tour”. We’ve always driven one of our MGs and we have no plans about where we are going or for how long. Our biggest decision when we hit the end of our driveway was whether to turn left or right. At first, Pat was very uncomfortable with this method of traveling. She always wanted to know ahead of time where she would be sleeping that night. So, we had to

compromise a little. We always took along an Ipad so that she could look up places along the way and make reservations for the night. She would do that about two hours out from a place to stay the night. Some days we would only drive maybe fifty miles and the next day maybe three hundred miles. No schedule, just play by ear.

This particular year, we left home in Northern Alabama and headed straight over to the Atlantic coast and when we saw water, we turned left and went up the coast keeping the water on our right. We wound up going up thru Canada, which we had done before a couple of times and then after about a month of traveling, it was time to go back south toward home. We were in eastern Pennsylvania near a town called Clarks Summit. We had come to a T-intersection and there had been an accident there and traffic was at a stand-still. We happened to be right behind a school bus. We guess that the school bus driver decided that she couldn't wait any longer and decided to back up and go around the blockage. What she didn't know that there was a little British Sports car right behind her. Her backup lights came on and there nothing we could do but watch. She backed that school bus right over our little car.

We took her information and a little later we called the offending school district office to report what had happened. We were very quickly told that they had "Governmental Immunity". Something that I've never

heard of before that call and haven't since. We were told that we'd have to have our own insurance cover any damages.

We deemed that our car was not drivable for the distance we had to go to get back home to Alabama. The biggest problem being the bonnet latch had been compromised and driving at freeway speeds most likely would have result in a bigger problem.

We stayed in a local hotel that first night while we waited for a claims adjuster to examine our car. The claims adjuster arrived the next morning at our hotel and agreed that the car should not be driving in the condition it was in to prevent any further problems. With this info, the school district offered to pay for a rental car to get home and all our lodging. They also paid for a flatbed tow back home. But, we decided to have our car taken to Jim Watson in Maryville, TN for the needed repairs of which he did a marvelous job. Indeed, our own insurance company did pay for all the required work.

Now what do you think of that- Ed

