

October 2024 Edition

OIL SPOTS

A Newsletter of the Plateau British Car Club



British



Plateau

Car Club

Est. 2008

of Tennessee

The Prez Sez

Well, fall is almost here, though the temperatures don't seem to have noticed yet. We are only a couple of weeks away from our last big event in Ooltewah. Our friends in the Southern British Car Club know how to throw a party and I'm hoping that our club is well represented.

This has been a good year, some great car shows, some productive meetings, but most importantly we have had excellent participation with great enthusiasm for our drive outs and get togethers. These, to me, are even more important than the big events. They are opportunities for us to gather, to drive, to sit and communicate. We share more than our love of LBC's. We share companionship and even friendships that don't necessarily depend on the smell of gas or puddles of oil.

The weather is going to be getting more pleasant in the next few weeks and I hope that means several more drives and get togethers before the chill winds cause us to park the cars.

Hope to see you all soon on the road or across the table. Be safe.

-Jack

I bought myself a senior's GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.

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

[Jack Spradling](#) - President- shadowfever@yahoo.com - 931.255.2040

[Larry McDonald](#) - Vice President - larry.McDonald53@gmail.com - 210.912.5546

[Edna Horony](#) - Treasurer/flowers/membership - ednahorony@gmail.com - 931.261.6943

[Pat Rainey](#) -Secretary - dprainey@att.net - 256.486.8605

[Dennis Rainey](#) - newsletter editor - dprainey@att.net - 256.744.4909

[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 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.

We have no new members for the August time period.

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

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August Treasurer's Report - Edna Horony

PBCC AUGUST 2024 FINANCIALS

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1-31 Aug 2024	Income	Expenses	Total
Beginning Balance	\$1,336.53		\$1,336.53
Membership Dues	\$12.50		\$12.50
Name Tags	\$10.00	(\$99.49)	(\$89.49)
Hat	\$60.00		\$60.00
BlueHost Domain Renewal		(36.17)	(36.17)
Total for Month	\$1,419.03	(\$135.66)	\$1283.37

It doesn't matter how old you get, buying snacks for a road trip should always look like an unsupervised 9-year-old given \$100...

How'd We Do???

The Return of the British car show held annually in Rugby, TN every August, is a chance for area British car enthusiasts to gather to renew old friendships and make some new ones. Spectators are welcome, as you don't need to be a British car owner to participate.

As you know, Historic Rugby Inc. (HRI), has been our clubs chosen organization for supporting for several years now. Each year that we have held our annual show there, we have set a new record. This year was not an exception.

The number of cars participating in the event this year was a little off from past years, but that seemed to be weather related as admittedly it was a bit questionable right up to the day of the event. However, we had a pleasant surprise when we had a much higher than expected number of spectators attend. This included a classic car club from the Knoxville area which organized a caravan to Rugby to see the British cars.

As far as how well we did for our contribution to HRI, we did set another record. Below are details of how we did. Let's continue to support HRI again and again in the future.

British Car Show Income & Expense Summary 2024			
Cook Out		Tickets \$310.00	Sub Total <u>\$5,834.92</u>
		Donations \$125.00	Other site income <u>\$3,019.00</u>
		Sponsorship \$400.00	Total <u>\$8,853.92</u>
		Food (\$180.00)	
		Music (\$400.00)	
		<u>\$255.00</u>	
Registrations		Online \$855.00	
		Day of \$535.00	
		Printing (\$57.00)	
		<u>\$1,337.92</u>	
		Donuts \$350.00 \$350.00	
		Carleen \$485.00 \$485.00	
		Silent Auction \$2,191.00 \$2,191.00	
Donations		Perks \$75.00	
		Other \$100.00	
		Sponsor \$250.00	
		Online \$65.00	
		<u>\$490.00</u>	
Raffle		Tickets \$406.00	
		Winner (\$203.00)	
		<u>\$203.00</u>	
Hospitality Tent		\$40.00 \$40.00	
Tshirts		Pre-orders \$75.00	
		Day of \$293.00	
		<u>\$368.00</u>	
Tea Table		Online \$85.00	
		Day of \$130.00	
		<u>\$215.00</u>	
Clear Fork Fire Department		<u>(\$100.00)</u>	

Proposed Schedule of Events - 2024

(Listed in chronological order)

- 10/05 - Brits at Cambridge - Southern British Car Club**
- 10/16 - Fourth Quarter Meeting, Election of Officers**
- 10 /4&5 - Brits at Cambridge 2024**
- **See Details Below or 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.

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.

BST - Buy, Sell or Trade

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.

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOX

For Sale

This is a MGB 1/2 tonneau cover / Stowage Cover without seat belt holes made in the UK, it has three short hold downs on the front instead of two longer ones. I don't have lift-a-dots for it. I haven't seen this model listed for sale in the US. I'm asking \$250, the current price from Moss UK is \$407.

Please Contact Eric Ritzman at eric.ritzman@gmail.com



For Sale

Very cool trailer built from an MGB. Have you ever traveled in your little British sports car and hated that you didn't have enough storage space? Have you ever attended a car meet and thought, "I wish I had a place to sit and a table to hold my burger and beer? Well, never again. Admittedly this is a project. Some cosmetic work to do and some of the parts need to be attached. Has primer and a couple of coats of paint on it. Needs a light sanding and another coat and then a good sealer. Gas cap, trunk handle, wiring harness for lights, and MG emblem aren't shown but come with it. Table set up to accept an umbrella. Pulls great, good tires. Once the painting is done, a good afternoon could see this finished. Contact Steve Spradling at 615.498.0043.



Tech





Session

Any interest in doing a couple of tech sessions? If ya got a pesky problem and a little help to resolve is needed, then thats a good excuse to gather and eat donuts and kick tyres etc. All that is needed is few donuts or maybe pizza if it goes on for long, and a problem to solve. Just let me know and we'll get it on the schedule.

The Case of England's Ghost Crash

On a cold December night in 2002, police in Surrey, England continued to get calls from drivers seeing headlights swerving off the road along the A3 highway. After the police rushed to the scene, they were unable to find a crash.

Instead of concluding they had been the victims of prank calls, the police searched the area more thoroughly, finding a maroon Vauxhall Astra wrecked in a ditch. Inside the nose-down car, the police found a body decomposing.

What puzzled the police was that it was obvious the crash had occurred long before that night. Due to the state of the body and the undergrowth around the car, the police set the crash as happening five months earlier, meaning that the people calling in the hadn't seen the Vauxhall Astra veering off the road—or had they?

The legend goes that the ghost of the motorist found in the car was trying to call attention to the crash. He used the ghostly headlights to get the attention of motorists and draw them his corpse. Instead of remaining trapped in a wrecked car forever, he could finally be laid to rest.

Appropriate for this time of year, don't ya think...Ed



SAVE THE DATE

PBCC 4th Quarter Meeting

We have a fancy new place to meet. It is the Bristow Rd Winery located at 416 Bristow Rd., Crossville. We will meet in their club room which is just off the main room. We will meet at 4:30 pm. On the 16th of October. The management will have a food truck there on that evening. Beer and wine are available. This is an important meeting, as we will be taking nominations for an election ballot to be held in January for new officers. Any member in good standing is eligible to hold an office position. In fact, you are encouraged to do so.

Volunteerism is the act of contributing free labor to conduct community service or support a nonprofit organization. It is the principle of donating time and energy towards a greater cause. Volunteers help to strengthen their community through responsibility rather than receiving a financial reward.

What is a Sports Car

Webster defines a Sports Car as: a low, comparatively small, usually 2-passenger automobile designed for quick response, easy maneuverability, and high-speed driving. We all have our own definition of what owning a Sports Car is all about, and our own reasons for driving one. There has to be some reason that we spend enormous amounts of time and money (of which we couldn't possibly ever recover) on some aging example of British Motorcar engineering. Some people say it's because British Cars are fun to drive, or that they like to work on them, but the real reason goes deeper than that. Someone once said that "it's not that any of us really need a British Sports Car, it's that they need us so much".

While it is true for myself that it is very hard to see a British Car restoration project residing in some back yard or garage without thinking what it would be like to see it returned to its former glory - as it should. There is one in my neighborhood now. In fact, it's extremely hard to resist sometimes. But I think these cars also fulfill a basic need in us, and tell the world in general something about us as people. It shows that we are independent enough to work on the cars ourselves, and willing to take risks. And that we are not willing to conform to other peoples preconceived notions and conventions.

Also, I think that the act of working on these cars ourselves is somehow important. Pitting ourselves against the often neglected old warrior, to make it road worthy and beautiful again, is an essential ingredient in owning a British Car. The more skinned knuckles and sore backs received from working on a sports car, the more intrinsic value it seems to have. Something about a British Sports Cars simple design, integrity, and character makes them appealing. And maybe by driving them, a little of that integrity rubs off on us. Their classic lines show that "their form is derived from their function", and they have a unique kind of beauty that's hard to equal. Very few cars made since that time period, have managed to attain the kind of reverence that these cars have received.

Their honesty reminds us of a time when things were a bit simpler, and we are in a way guardians of that. By maintaining them, and continuing to drive them, we are somehow making sure that something important doesn't pass from this world. It's sort of like protecting a historic piece of art. Not locked away in a museum somewhere, but out on the open road where people can see it and be reminded of it. Maybe we can even hope to pass these cars on to future generations, and that they see what we do in them - so they won't be forgotten. All and all, there are a lot of different reasons for owning a British Car, and we each have our own.

Of course, it could just be that they are fun to drive...

-Ed.

Brits at Cambridge 2024

The Southern British Car Club is excited to announce that the Brits are returning to Cambridge Square for our annual show this fall. Cambridge has numerous shops and restaurants with several new choices, including a "Fish & Chips" restaurant scheduled to open by our show date. "The Square" is closed to outside traffic during our show, creating a safe and relaxing day for enjoying British cars and the fine folks driving them. We will start with a welcome reception at our host hotel, Springhill Suites, on Friday evening, October 4 followed by our show on Saturday, October 5. A block of discounted rate rooms has been reserved at Springhill Suites. Additional info and a reservation link will be available on our website soon.

Please Save The Date!

October 4-5 Photos from our previous shows at Cambridge Square:



<https://www.southernbritishcarclub.net>