

The Burble & Squeak

Official Newsletter for Annual Members of the Michiana Brits British Car Enthusiasts © 2021 Michiana Brits, Ltd.

November 2021

About Michiana Brits

This car club is open to lovers and/or owners of British vehicles. All paid members receive this monthly newsletter as part of their annual dues.

Newsletter Submissions

Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos for publication to the Newsletter Editor at

vbloom01@sbcglobal.net

You may also submit material for the newsletter to the Club president online, through mail, or in person at a general club meeting.

The newsletter's **deadline is now the 10th of the month.**

Material is subject to editorial revision. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the 2021 Michiana Brits, Ltd., British Car Enthusiasts.

Website:

www.michianabrits.com



Pictures by Vicki Bloom from the Fall Colors Drive

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Annual Member Appreciation & Holiday Dinner, Papa Vino's, Mishawaka, **November 19, 6:30pm EST** (socializing), dinner starts at 7pm.



DECEMBER

Breakfast, Dec. 11, 10am EST Perkins in Elkhart (across from Toll Road Entrance/Exit)

Membership report: 92 memberships (167 members)

Members, need a name tag? Contact Herm to order one at hmarrese@comcast.net

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Since my last message the Michiana Brits driving season has wrapped up. At least as a group. I'll continue on driving when road conditions and weather permits. Anyone else?

Our Fall Colors Ddrive on Saturday, October 9th, was a great success. We had at least 20 British cars fill the parking lot for lunch and 44 people at lunch. At the end of the drive, we all sat and socialized with snacks provided by Jan and Herm. Cheers to **Phil Wiltshire** for putting the drive together. Later in the month on the 20th, the club met for our monthly meeting at the Brass Rail Restaurant in Plymouth, IN. We filled their back room, allowing us to be our usual noisy selves.

Our next event is the member appreciation dinner on **Friday, November 19, 6:30 pm** at Papa Vino's in Mishawaka. That's less than two weeks from now. We've reserved both rooms so we should be able to accommodate everyone wanting to attend. If you are planning to attend but have not sent your check to me, **please** do so. Full details about where to send your checks are included in this newsletter.

Spring cleaning alert. **Do you have anything that might be sellable at our annual car show's silent auction?** We are seeking British memorabilia, car stuff, signs, etc. that attendees might be interested in bidding on. Sometimes it surprises us what sells. While we didn't have the auction this past show due to COVID-19 precautions, we are hoping to have a strong showing in 2022. Let us know if you have any treasures.

After the Thanksgiving holiday, we are scheduling winter breakfast meetings on December 11, January 15, February 19, and March 19. The Board decided to hold all 4 meetings at **Perkins Restaurant & Bakery** in Elkhart at **10am**. We are doing this for two reasons. First, this restaurant is located across from the exit/entry to the Toll Road, a route that is usually open during inclement weather. Second, the later time will provide those members who live further away more time to arrive.

Lastly, to all Michiana Brits who are veterans: We salute you on Veteran's Day.

Cheers,

Mike

Members Appreciation Dinner



Just a reminder that the dinner is at **Papa Vino's**, Mishawaka at
November 19, 6:30pm

The cost is \$18.00 per person.
Please send checks by Monday, November 15 to:

Mike Scullion, 15525 Carriage Lane, Mishawaka, IN 46545

We need to give Papa Vino's a final count on the 15th.

Board Meeting

1. Financial – Paul reported that account balance. We are in good shape.
2. Newsletter – Vicki always seeks articles and pictures.
3. Club's Facebook pages – Tom removed the organization's Facebook site. There are two Facebook club pages: Michiana Brits and Michiana Brits, Eastern Division. The board encourages those on Facebook to join the club pages and post!

There was concern expressed that not every club member uses Facebook. Phil suggested that we create a phone tree, in cases when a club event is cancelled at the last minute. Larry added that a mass text message may be the best way to go. **Action:** Vicki is surveying members at November's dinner on the use of Facebook and text messaging.

4. 2021 activities:
 - **Membership Appreciation Dinner** - November 19th - at Papa Vino's – 6:30 PM socializing; 7:00PM dinner.
Mike reported that 35 people have paid to date.
5. Cling-on logos update - Some members have commented that their cling-ons are falling off. Bob Petersen recommended spritzing with water first. Dick commented that water should not have to be used. **Action:** Dick will be contacting the vendor.
6. List of automotive garages who work on LBCs – **Action:** Paul is still working on this project.

7. Phil suggested that we create a newsletter devoted to our Brits 2021 year in pictures. The idea is to celebrate our cars and can include places that members went. The board concurred that this would be a great idea. **Action:** Mike will mention at the Appreciation Dinner and Vicki will promote through the newsletter. The Board selected Vicki to select the pictures to be included.

8. 2022 Annual Car Show -
 - a. **Featured Marque** – Larry supplied the Board with a list of former selected Marques by year. Phil noted that 2022 is the 60th anniversary of the MGB. It was agreed that **MGB will be the 2022 featured Marque.**
 - b. **Coordinators** - Larry also announced that **Jim Betz** has volunteered to be one of the co-chairs to coordinate upcoming car shows. **THANK YOU, JIM!** We still need another volunteer. Larry will be working with the new volunteers on the 2022 show to provide transition.
 - c. **Silent auction and sale of donated items** – Larry inquired if there was any interest by members to find items for the sale. He does have some items from the Deacons. Bob added that Mary plans on making wooden signs painted with British Flags. Larry asked Herm about our current stock of t-shirts. There are approximately a dozen remaining, primarily sizes XL and XXL. Phil suggested we print new t-shirts with the new car club logo and website. **Action:** Herm will be checking on pricing.

9. Monthly Meetings/Breakfasts – Tentative dates for breakfasts – December 11, January 15, February 19, and March 19. Phil suggested we meet at the same restaurant - Perkins in Elkhart - for all three breakfasts. Dick requested we meet at 10am for the people who have a long drive. The Board agreed that we should try a later time for the breakfast in December. **Action:** Bob Petersen said he would check to see if the room at Perkins is available at 10am on Dec. 11.

10. The next Board Meetings are Weds., Dec 1 at 7:30pm and Weds., Jan. 5 at 7:30pm via ZOOM – anyone is welcome to join. Contact Mike Scullion for a Zoom invite.

2020 Board Members

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<p>Secretary: Larry Palguta Phone: 574-288-3923 Email: palguta@sbcglobal.net</p> 	<p>Activities: Philip Wiltshire Phone: 248-676-0986 Email: pwiltshire@comcast.net</p> 
<p>Communications: Vicki Bloom Phone: 574-252-0511 Email: vbloom01@sbcglobal.net</p> 	<p>Membership: Herm Marrese Phone: 574-360-4938 Email: hmarrese@comcast.net</p> 
<p>Board Member at Large: Richard Birch m Phone: 336-309-3847 Email: birchtr6@gmail.com</p> 	

Fall Colors Drive – October 9, 2021

By Philip Wiltshire

All Photos by Philip Wiltshire, unless otherwise noted

Prior to this event, Jan and I had taken a few days' vacation up in Traverse City and Charlevoix. About 30% of the trees had started to turn in that area, so we knew that our Michiana Brit's Fall Colors Drive would be more about the drive than the tree leaf colors.

Following on from the many e-blasts that Larry had sent out, we already knew we would have about 10 cars from the responses received. As I drove to the starting point in Elkhart, a little rain fell. Maybe this would wash the green off the leaves and red undercoat would be exposed? Sometimes this kind of weather discourages drivers to get their shiny cars a bit damp, so I also thought that it might just be me driving with a couple of diehards.

I was very wrong. 20 cars greeted me in the parking lot at Perkins and they were ready to ride!



Roger Deacon and Bev Glanders, and others; Deb Shumaker taking a picture



Randy Glanders in Michigan cap

We were using Randy Glander's 2019 route with a couple of modifications thanks to COVID restrictions. The first segment ran 50 miles northeast from Elkhart and wound through SW Michigan, including a run across the only in-service covered bridge in the area.



Picture by Vicki Bloom

The weather began to improve, and the British drizzle subsided into cloudy sunshine. Once free of the Elkhart Saturday morning traffic, we cruised along some long smooth and quiet roads, across into Michigan and through some smaller towns.



The 20 cars in the convoy got onto the pace and we all made it to the lunch stop. Vicki Bloom had researched and found “Hank’s Tavern on the River” restaurant on the route northeast of Three Rivers next to the Rocky River with a large parking lot. After she had suggested this stop, Jan and I went and tried it out a few times to make sure it was up to the Brit’s standard. It was and is!

We parked all the cars in one long row in the lot. The line-up looked spectacular, with MG’s, Triumph’s, Jaguars, and Austin Healey’s all glimmering in the sun.



Photosby Vicki Bloom

Our group had some additional folk joining, so **the final number sitting down for lunch was 44**. I had called ahead and upped the number of diners for lunch, and we filled up their events room and a nearby hi-top table. I got no complaints about the food, so Vicki, thanks for finding and reserving “Hank’s Tavern on the River” for us.

The second leg of our Color Tour was about 40 miles long and wound through some very nicely paved (some occasional pot holes...) hills and vales, tree canopies and lakeside communities before finishing at Bonneyville Mill Country Park near Bristol. We had a park shelter booked and enjoyed parking, having a natter and consuming some sodas, pastries, and special icy treats from Herm, who met us at Bonneyville Park.



Tom Shumaker, Mike Scullion, Vicki Bloom and Randy Glanders talking; Jim Betz on phone



Her neighbor & Peggy Needham-Mrva, Bev Glanders, Jan Tucker, Ruth & Roger Deacon,



Dick and Judy Birch

The main breakdown was running out of fuel for one of the cars. I have not got any details yet, but two cars stayed and sorted him out.

Thanks again to **Randy** for the loan of his route, and **Vicki** for sorting out the lunch stop for us.

2021 Brits Year in Pictures

Let's celebrate our Club, its members, and their cars!

We will be publishing a special newsletter, **2021 Brits Year in Pictures**.

Please send us pictures of you with your car by **January 15, 2022**, in your garage fixing your car, parked in the driveway, along the road, or places you drove.

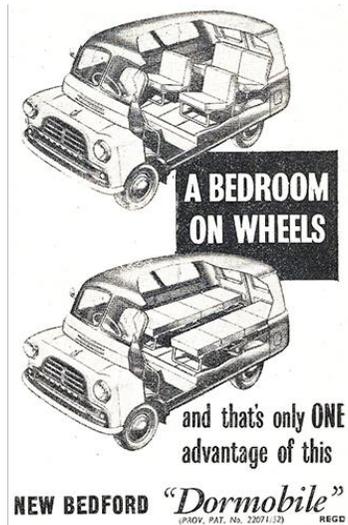
A few fun ones would be appreciated.

Here is a pic of Mike driving his MGB!



Camping, Anyone?

Born out of the Martin Walter factory in Folkestone Kent, the **Dormobile** campervan was the UK's leading motor home producer in the 1950's, 1960's & 1970's. First launched as a pug-nosed light delivery van with sliding doors, it was advertised as a 'Bedroom on Wheels' starting in the early 1950s. See the advertisement on the left.



The UK tax authorities asserted that the converted vehicle was effectively a form of estate car, and therefore its retail price should bear passenger car purchase tax, a burden from which buyers of vans were spared. However, the manufacturers negotiated an agreement whereby Dormobile converted vans could be sold without purchase tax, provided they incorporated "built-in life support equipment" such as a cooking device, and facilities for the washing and storage of clothes. These stipulations triggered a move away from minibus conversions to motorhome conversions, which

carved out a substantial new life-style market as the ensuing decade saw a substantial increase in disposable incomes in the UK.

The first Bedford CA based Dormobile motorhome, complete with a gas stove, a sink and cupboards and seats which converted into beds, appeared in 1957. The elevating roof, hinged on one side and featuring a red and white striped canopy, was quickly evolved in order to make it possible to stand within the vehicle.



Inside the camper you could specify a number of different interior options including simpler items like a sink and a cooker, right up to more expensive options like a toilet and an ice box refrigerator. Perhaps the cleverest element of the interior was the "Dormatic" twin front seats which converted into beds, although they may not have been the most comfortable beds in the world they did the job, and they allowed the Dormobile to sleep up to four people.

2021 Michiana Brits Event Calendar

Month	Date	Event
January	6	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom.
February	3 13	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. 10:00 am EST Breakfast Meeting via Zoom.
March	3 13	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. 10:00 am EST Breakfast Meeting via Zoom.
April	7 10	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. 10:00 am EST Breakfast Meeting via Zoom.
May	5 15	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. Spring drive! See details in the newsletter!
June	2 1-4 12 27	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. *British V8 2021 in Auburn, IN Breakfast at ... 2021 Michiana Brits car show! POSTPONED
July	7 11 17 24 25	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. *Mad Dogs at the Gilmore Museum, Hickory Corners. Breakfast - Jennie Rae's Rolling Prairie, 10am EDT/9amCT Dinner – Beef O’Brady’s, 6:30 pm. Rescheduled 2021 Michiana Brits car show.
August	4 15 21 28	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. Annual Meeting at the Deacon’s *Woodward Dream Cruise, Woodward Ave, Detroit Breakfast, American Table Restaurant, Warsaw, IN
September	1 4 16 23-26	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. 8 to 10 am EST - Cars and Coffee - Studebaker Museum. Essenhaus Classic Car Cruise In, Middlebury, 4:30-8pm. Fall Tour, Nashville, IN.
October	6 9 20	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. Fall Colors Drive. Dinner, 6:30 PM, The Brass Rail, 225 N. Michigan Street, Plymouth, IN.
November	3 19	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. Annual Member Appreciation Dinner at Papa Vino’s, Mishawaka.
December	1 11	7:30 pm EST Board meeting via Zoom. 10am EST, Breakfast at Perkins, Elkhart (pending)

Notes: *Not a Michiana Brits Event. Enjoy at your own leisure.