

# The Burble & Squeak

Official Newsletter for Annual Members of the Michiana Brits British Car Enthusiasts © 2023 Michiana Brits, Ltd.

**June 2023**

## 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.

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

[vbloom01@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

Material is subject to editorial revision. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the 2023 Michiana Brits, Ltd., British Car Enthusiasts.

## Website:

[www.michianabrits.com](http://www.michianabrits.com)

## Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/groups/374723067057280](https://www.facebook.com/groups/374723067057280)

**35<sup>th</sup> Annual British Car Show, St. Mary's College, June 25**

**Don't forget to pre-register your car(s)!**

[http://www.michianabrits.com/annual\\_show.htm](http://www.michianabrits.com/annual_show.htm)

**Looking forward to seeing you all there!**

**In Peoria there is a MG as a flower bed!**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**JUNE 7 – Board Meeting, 7:30, EST**

**JUNE 14 - Dinner, 6:30pm EST, at the Brass Rail, Plymouth.**

**JUNE 25 – Michiana Brits Car Show!**

**Also, on JUNE 21 – Weds.** is the main car event/BBQ for the **42<sup>nd</sup> Gathering of the Faithful (GOF)** at St. Mary's College on the grass by the intersection of Madeleva Drive and Brother Andre Drive (across from the Inn at Saint Mary's):

<https://www.gof2023.com/>

**CHECK OUT THE FULL EVENTS CALENDAR**

**BELOW!**

## EVENT CALENDAR 2023

Month	Date	Event
June	3	JAGIN Concours, Jaguar Assoc. Greater IN, Tom Woodward Aviation, Fishers, IN (Contact Jim Webb for info) *
	4	Lake Erie British Car Show, Fort Meigs Historic Site, Perrysburg, OH*
	7	7:30pm Board Meeting via Zoom
	14	6:30pm EST, Dinner at the Brass Rail, Plymouth
	10	Plymouth Cruz'n, 8am-12*
	11	Eddy Street Commons Car Show *
	16-17	SVRA, Sportscar Vintage Racing Assoc. Indianapolis Motor Speedway (car show and vintage racing, drive around track) *
	20-22	Gathering of the Faithful, St. Mary's College * (see next page)
	25	Annual Car Show, St. Mary's College
July	5	7:30pm Board Meeting via Zoom
	8	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Concours D'Elegance, Studebaker Museum *
	9	Mad Dogs & Englishmen Car Show, Gilmore Museum *
	15	Annual Luncheon Meeting of Club at Webb's, noon
August	2	7:30pm Board Meeting via Zoom
	12	Brits Featured Club, Cars and Coffee, Studebaker Museum
	12	25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Indy British Motor Day, Lion's Park, Zionsville *
	16	6:00pm CST, Dinner at Christo's LaPorte, IL
	18-19	University Motors Reunion, Grand Rapids, MI John Twist's MG gathering *
	24	Brits Featured Club, Essenhause Classic Car Cruise-In, 4pm or earlier.
September	6	7:30pm Board Meeting via Zoom
	10	British Car Festival, Palatine, IL (near Chicago) *
	21-24	Fall Tour, Springfield, IL
October	4	7:30pm Board Meeting via Zoom
	21	Fall Color Drive
November	7	7:30pm Board Meeting via Zoom
	TBD	Members Appreciation Dinner

## **Gathering of the Faithful**

The **Gathering of the Faithful** (GOF) will hold their 42nd GOF in the Midwest, this event occurring in South Bend at the Embassy Suites, Notre Dame, IN on June 20-23. Activities will occur around South Bend, Notre Dame, and Saint Mary's College. Their Main Car Show/BBQ will be held Wednesday June 21 at Saint Mary's College on the grass by the intersection of Madeleva Drive and Brother Andre Drive (across from the Inn at Saint Mary's). There are already 134 cars pre-registered for the GOF. Numerous old MG's will be at the GOF.

Here is the link to their website: <https://www.gof2023.com/>  
The entire GOF itinerary is at the website.

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### **Cars & Coffees/ Cruise-Ins**

#### **JUNE**

- June 10, **Plymouth Cruz'n**, 8am - noon

#### **ONGOING**

- **Cruise In at the American Legion**, 2nd Friday of every month from April thru October, Garrett, IN, 5-9 PM, Broasted Chicken & entertainment. 260-357-5133
- **Black Sheep Coffee & Cars**, 1st Sunday every month from April thru October, LaPorte, IN, Solder's Park, 8-10 AM
- **Carguys and Coffee**, 2nd Saturday of the month from April thru October, Carguys Auto Detailing, 1724 Lincolnway west, Osceola, IN, 8-11 AM

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### **President's Message**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month our club will host the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Michiana British Car Show. It's hard to fathom that the show has been around for three and a half decades. The first show took place in 1987 when two couples, the Snyders and the Stscherbans, hosted the car show at St. Patrick's Park. After nine years of doing everything, the couples decided it was time to pass the showoff to someone else. So, in July of 1995 a group of British car enthusiasts gathered at The Tea at the Vickerage in Howe, Indiana to form Michiana Brits in order to take over the car show.

Even though the club was formed simply to run the car show, it has grown into something more. We are a social club that forges lifelong friendships. We have year around activities including several driving events that allow us to get our cars out on

the open road. We provide assistance in maintenance and repair of your car. Our club is indeed special, and hopefully it will be around for many years to come.

Cheers,

Randy


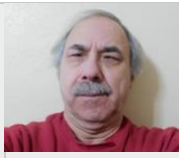





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## **June Board Meeting Minutes**

- 1. Financial and Membership:** Healthy budget. 1 new member (owner of 1965 Austin Healy). Received card reader and Larry tested. Card reader will be placed at booth – registration will send those who want to pay by credit card to that location.
- 2. Name badges:** Herm sent out 10 badges; 3 addresses need to be re-verified.
- 3. June newsletter:** all ready to go, except minutes.
- 4. Activities:** PJ recapped the Spring drive. July 15<sup>th</sup> annual meeting at Webb's – lunch at noon (Mike and Vicki to pick up chicken). August 16 dinner at Cristo's. Sept 21-24 Fall tour to Springfield – PJ is checking hotels. Oct 21 Fall colors drive. Possible lunch at Lehman's.
- 5. Car Show, Sunday, June 25.** 36 cars registered. Taco truck unavailable – trying to find alternative (possibly, Real Services or Waka Dogs). Need to confirm Bonnie Doon. Dante is working on publicity. Awards being engraved. Need about 4-5 more volunteers. South Bend info: need 25 full size booklets, and 100 trifold pamphlets. Larry asked about GOF and whether Dante is mentioning it. Jim has pins (which look very nice!) Still looking to donations for sale (Larry will send out reminders). Visitors will be able to vote for Best of Show (People's Choice). There will be general announcements about People's Choice ballots.
- 6. Monthly meetings/dinners: June 14 – The Brass Rail in Plymouth 6:30pm** EST, August 16 Cristo's in Plymouth at 6pmCT and 7pm EST. July's meeting is the annual lunch at the Webb's on July 15 at noon.
- 7. Monthly Board meeting on Zoom:** Weds., 7:30pm, July 5, August 2, September 6.

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## **Board Members**

<b>President:</b> <b>Randy Glanders</b> <a href="mailto:rglanders@yahoo.com">rglanders@yahoo.com</a> 574-849-4798		<b>Activities:</b> <b>Paul (PJ) Dillon</b> <a href="mailto:paul.j.dillon.3@nd.edu">paul.j.dillon.3@nd.edu</a> 574-272-7391	
<b>Membership:</b> <b>Jim Webb</b> <a href="mailto:Webbsclassic@gmail.com">Webbsclassic@gmail.com</a> 260-519-3492		<b>Communications:</b> <b>Vicki Bloom</b> <a href="mailto:vbloom01@sbcglobal.net">vbloom01@sbcglobal.net</a> 574-252-0511	
<b>Member at Large:</b> <b>Richard (Dick) Birch</b> <a href="mailto:Birchtr6@gmail.com">Birchtr6@gmail.com</a> 336-309-3847		<b>Treasurer:</b> <b>Paul Noeth</b> <a href="mailto:pnoeth@gmail.com">pnoeth@gmail.com</a> 574-274-2842	
<b>Secretary:</b> <b>Larry Palguta</b> <a href="mailto:lpalguta@sbcglobal.net">lpalguta@sbcglobal.net</a> 574-288-3923			



## MG Centenary Pin

Our vendor Quality Lapel Pins has a 3 inch Grill Badge celebrating the MG Centenary. If you would like one for your British vehicle, please contact Gary at:

[Gary@QualityLapelPins.com](mailto:Gary@QualityLapelPins.com)



## About the Brit's Spring Fling, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

By Philip Wiltshire

With additional photos by PJ Dillon and Vicki Bloom

As I write this trip report I am basking in 74-degree sun looking across our subdivision. Unlike yesterday, when we enjoyed 49 degree cloudy weather for most of our run; lifting a little in midafternoon to a balmy sunny 55 degrees.

We had 8 vehicles on our trip. 2 late model Jaguars, a Toyota, a VW GTI, a Jeep, a Datsun Zee car, a Triumph Spitfire and an MGB roadster.

Randy and Bev in the Spitfire and Mike and Vicki in the MGB drove the whole 230 miles top down. In recognition of this feat, I turned the A/C in the Jag down to 72 degrees.

We departed from Perkins in Elkhart at 8.30am and headed north along some very nice Michigan backroads that are long, smooth, and undulating. We passed through many small towns that I would call villages, in the middle of nowhere.

We arrived in Grand Rapids just before 11.30am, where my friend Dominic was waiting to greet us at his "shop" where his extensive car collection lives. We spent about an hour with Dominic; he answered questions about his cars, as each has a history and many of the cars have special provenance.







We then drove on a further 6 miles to the Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. We had allowed 2 ½ hours for lunch and the visit; I realized quickly that you can spend a whole day here looking through the sculptures in the park and then the hothouses with their exotic plants. For many of us, we took a narrated tram tour that focused on the gardens and sculptures.



And then it was 3.30pm already, time to head home. Five of the eight cars split up to go to other local places and make a faster, more direct drive home taking 131.

We three stayed with the original plan and reversed the route. So, the MGB, Spitfire and F-Type enjoyed a very nice drive home with minimum traffic and taking those great long, smooth roads.



In summary, a very nice day out, with good roads and two great destinations. You should get your British car out or simply “run what you brung” and come along on the next driving event.



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## May Dinner at Lindy's

Photos by Herm



## Automotive Electrical Fuses – British Vs American

British and American standards for rating electrical fuses are different. Both provide an "Amp Rating" for very similar looking fuses, but the two ratings mean very different things. The US system rates the fuse based on the continuous load it can handle for a specified period of time w/o blowing, whilst the British system expresses the load at which the fuse will immediately blow.

That's a significant difference! As an example, the 35 Amp fuse called out for many 1950's/ 60's/ 70's vintage Britcars (Lotus Elan & Europa for sure) is roughly equivalent to a US-spec BUSS AGC 17 Amp fuse. Install a US 35 Amp fuse into your LBC fuse box and the wiring harness will melt down before the fuse blows.

### DO NOT use a USA rated 35 amp fuse in your vintage British car!

The complete rating for the 35 amp Lucas fuse is - "17 AMPS CONTINUOUS / 35 AMP SURGE"

Early British fuses were simply marked with the quick-blow rating, but later fuses are given two ratings in an effort to minimize the confusion. For instance, the 35 Amp fuse is often marked as "17 continuous / 35 blow", or simply 17/35. In that case, use the lower "continuous" rating as the one to which you try to match an American BUSS fuse rating. Or, better yet, proper British fuses are available from your favorite independent Britcar / Lotus parts dealer. Purchase a supply and keep them in your LBC's glove box.

The comparison/ substitution looks something like this..

British Lucas Fuse		~	American BUSS Fuse	
Fast Blow	Dual Rating	~	Continuous (AGC)	Alternate Opinion (SFE ?)
50 amp	25/50 amp	~	25 amp	25 amp SFE
35 amp	17/35 amp	~	17 amp	20 amp SFE
30 amp	15/30 amp	~	15 amp	15 amp SFE (too short ?)
25 amp	12/25 amp	~	12 amp	15 amp SFE (too short ?)
20 amp	10/20 amp	~	10 amp	
15 amp	7.5/15 amp	~	8 amp	
10 amp	5/10 amp	~	5 amp	
5 amp	2.5/5 amp	~		3 amp
2amp	1/2 amp	~	1 amp	

Unfortunately, there's no extra data marked on either the fuse body or on the package to tip-off the user that the ratings are different. It's very important that USA owners of British cars be aware of the issue and make wise choices when using USA fuses in them. The best choice is to make the effort to source proper British fuses for your LBC. In an emergency, the loose Rule of Thumb is to use a USA BUSS fuse with an Amp rating equal to no more than one half of the British Lucas fuse rating.

#### USA BUSS fuse terms:

**SFE** fuses are "automotive" and rated to interrupt only 32 volts. Their length depends on their current rating, ranging from 5/8" for a SFE-4 to 1-7/16" for a SFE-30 (lower amperage = shorter and higher amperage = longer). So, size-wise, sometimes higher amp rating SFE fuse will work in place of an "AGC" or an "AGA" or a Lucas fuse. Regardless of physical size, an SFE will always blow more quickly than a current AG\_\_ (or older AG) that has a similar Amp rating.

**AGC** fuses are "General Purpose". They are always 1/4" Dia X 1-1/4" long. They're available in 250V ratings to 10 amps, and up to 32V ratings to 30 amps. AGC fuses are approximately the same length as British fuses, and will fit in the Lucas fuse holder. An AGC-20 is the same length as an SFE-20 and they are pretty much interchangeable.

Both AGC and SFE are "fast acting", but according to BUSS charts, the SFE is faster. An AGC-20 is rated to carry 27 amps for up to 60 minutes, while an SFE-20 will blow in under 2 minutes. However, the 60 minutes is given as a maximum, while the 2 minutes is apparently typical, so that may not be an accurate comparison. Without getting too lost in the details, the basic idea is that an SFE will blow



faster than an AGC, and will better protect your LBC's vintage wiring.

If you are going to use BUSS fuses in your LBC, then when availability and length permits, use SFE fuses as your first choice. When you must use AGC fuses, shop for the 32 volt rated versions first, but the 250 volt AGC fuses will "work". SFE fuses in lower Amp ratings will be shorter than the Lucas fuses and may not fit the Lucas fuse box properly, so use common sense.

Currently BUSS AG fuses are available in different lengths, denoted as AGA, AGB and AGC. They are all available in the same voltage and current ratings, the difference being in the lengths. AGA is the shortest, and lengths become longer as they progress from A through C.

Previously, the AG fuses were differentiated on a number scale, 1AG, 2AG and 3AG. The older "3AG" fuses are the same as the modern, common "AGC" fuses. Similarly: 1AG = AGA and 2AG = AGB. I don't believe stores or catalogs list "3AG" or "1AG" fuses anymore; they just list the current designation "AGC" or "AGA" now.

USA fuse styles (The difference between them is their length)

Current - • OLD designation (no longer sold)

AGA ---- 1AG

AGB ---- 2AG

AGC ---- 3AG (1/4" Dia x 1-1/4", fit Lucas fuse holder)

SFE ----

*(From the August 2012 issue of Spokes, the Official Publication of the MG Car Club Western New York Centre).*

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## **Racing Fans: Do You Remember?**

**Submitted by Bob Rowland**

The picture below recounts how J. M. Fangio won 5 Formula 1 Championships for 4 different manufacturers:

Alfo-Romeo

Ferrari-Lancia

Mercedes-Benz ---TWICE

and

Maserati.

Three of those manufacturers produced cars that were no better than their peers; Fangio won by driving faster.

Mercedes-Benz race cars (W-196) were faster than others plus M-B had a sterling race team. Also, Fangio won his last Championship at age 49.

This is probably not do-able today as kids start racing much younger.



# Fangio – licenced to drive in the Falkland Islands

Thanks to an unusual chain of circumstances I found myself spending 20 hours on a Ministry of Defence flight recently, via Ascension Island, to the Falklands. If the Falkland Islands – as recovered from occupation in the conflict of 1982 – is not an unusual place for a motor racing scribbler to find himself, then Ascension Island certainly is. Today's MoD air bridge is operated in an effective and friendly manner by Air Seychelles because – we were told – it is particularly good at finding remote islands. Ascension, with nothing but a thousand miles or so of clear blue ocean in every direction, certainly ticks the 'remote' box.

Flights touch down there on an uphill runway which humpbacks between two abrupt volcanic hills. As the Boeing 767 decelerated over the brow it's quite a startling sight to see the russet rock faces of a virtual railway cutting zipping past each wingtip. Then it's turn around and backtrack to what passes for a terminal, with three crash wagons in attendance representing the UK, US and local island authorities. We're ushered out into 'The Cage' open-air compound while the big silver bird is replenished, then we're off for another sausage-and-bacon panini leg to Mount Pleasant,




Fangio got about using a sporting licence from the Automobile Club Argentino without any problem...

East Falkland. Over the next few days we're doing military/naturalist/specialist things over hill and dale, larking about in 110-inch Land Rovers and nattering to people on ships and sharp, pointy little aeroplanes.

In the midst of all this I regale my travelling companion with the strange tale of Juan Manuel

Fangio, five-times World Champion, and his driving licence. Because, you see, he began driving in his native Argentina before a licence was necessary. He used to tell how he only got a licence for public road driving in 1961, when it was required for a trip to Brazil. Otherwise, throughout all his globetrotting, he only ever used his Automobile Club Argentino sporting licence. It seemed to be accepted everywhere.

But in April 1980, travelling with the then-chairman of the ACA, Dr Cesar C Carman, and his long-time protégé and ex-racing driver Juan Manuel Bordau, The Old Man visited Port Stanley in the Falklands. He was well received at a time of relative rapprochement between Argentina and the UK – and he was issued with a Falkland Islands driving licence, No 1644. I wanted to check the local records to see if I could confirm the great man's story, and we hesitated outside the Stanley police station (trim and smartly painted today after taking a missile strike in '82...) but I wasn't allowed to. "I don't think that's making great use of our time," I was firmly told. So I didn't. But Fangio had a Falklands driving licence. Yet again, more detail than you ever wished to know? 

## Poetic licence

Sir,

I did an interview with Juan Manuel Fangio when he was in Britain for his 80th birthday celebrations. He proudly told me that he was "British" and produced his Falklands driving licence as evidence (right). He said the Governor of the islands had given it to him and told him that his was a special case. He would not be ordered to pass a driving test!

Martin Holmes, Woking, Surrey



## Homenaje a Fangio / Tribute to Fangio

www.panamericano.us

Del 3 al 14 de diciembre, Panamericano Buenos Aires Hotel & Resort y la Fundación Fangio organizan una muestra en honor al automovilista argentino Juan Manuel Fangio. La muestra exhibe cuatro de los más emblemáticos automóviles en los que corrió el quintuple campeón de Fórmula 1, trofeos y otras reliquias. Entrada libre y gratuita.

From 3rd to 14th December, Panamericano Buenos Aires Hotel & Resort and the Fangio Foundation are organizing a display in honor of the Argentine race-car driver Juan Manuel Fangio. The exhibition will show four of the most emblematic automobiles in which the five-time Formula 1 champion raced, as well as trophies and other relics. Free admission.

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## Peace haven

Sir,

In December 2012, I visited the Hotel Panamerica, Buenos Aires, to see a Juan Manuel Fangio exhibition that had cars, trophies, gloves and one of the great man's helmets.

Currently Argentina and the UK are not on friendly terms and to young Argentine people it has always been that way. I showed several of them the 2011 Motor Sport issues which documented that Fangio proudly had a Falkland Islands driving licence.

Once the young folks read and translated the English they realised the situation between the two nations had once been far better than it has for the last 30 years. I hope the copy they made of your short notes is distributed.

Robert Rowland, Indiana, USA

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