



The British Diamond

May/June 2007

2007– 2008

Elected Officers

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Mike Culik
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Vice President

Robert Gannon
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Historian

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Events & Video

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Car Show

Christmas Party

Karl Kaminski
302-737-1553

Annual Picnic

Betty Burleigh
302-836-5423

From the President

Summer Greetings to all,

The weather cooperated and it has been a great spring for enjoying our British cars and the camaraderie of our club. The events calendar has so much to on it that one has to plan carefully that the Mrs. and yard work gets equal attention!

For the spring warm-up we had a great drive to the Air Command Museum, with a little posing on the tarmac with several great historic airplanes and the drive to Hopewell Furnace, where we enjoyed the fresh air, scenery, a little history and a picnic with really nice people.

Many of you attended car shows at Lewes, Hope Lodge, Newark - Nites and Hellertown to name a few. BCCD club members have returned from all with many compliments and trophies in hand!

The attendance of both cars and spectators, at these shows and our clubs recent TV debut on the Comcast CN8 Morning Show, coinciding with the national "Drive your British car week", proves there is still a great deal of interest in our "LBC" hobby, and that it is still strong and growing.

The rest of the summer schedule is just as busy:

The Concord Mall Sleep Over is August 3 –5

The Vintage Triumph Register's National Convention July 17-20

Delaware City Day, parade (new date) July 21st

The BCCD annual picnic August 12th

The BCCD Car Show at Delaware City, September 15th

Check out these events and more on our web-site www.bccdelaware.com

The BCCD car show plans are forming and some advertising has been done. Mark your calendars for September the 15th in Delaware City. Lets work together and make this year's event another memorable one for the club.

Enjoy your summer and drive your LBC when you can.

Mike Culik, President
76 TR6 & 59 MGA

Every care was taken to insure the accuracy of the contents of this newsletter. The editor(s) accept no responsibility for any effect caused by errors or omissions.

Next Meeting: Crabby Dicks, Wednesday June 17th, 2007 ...SEE YOU THERE...

Calendar of future events

* Indicates BCCD points event

June 20 Club Meeting - Crabby Dicks - Delaware City *

July

13-14 Roadster Factory Picnic www.TheRoadsterFactory.com
14 Delaware City Day Parade * - Details TBA
15 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. Recommended www.PittsburghVintageGrandPrix.com
17 VINTAGE TRIUMPH REGISTER NATIONAL CONVENTION www.vtr2007.com
18 Gathering at Crabby Dicks - Delaware City *

August

3-5 Concord Mall Sleepover *
4 ?? Newark Cruise-In
12 BCCD Picnic and Meeting * - Brumbaugh estate Yorklyn
15 Special Car Show Meeting - Crabby Dicks - Delaware City *

September

7-9 Watkins Glen Zippo Vintage Grand Prix www.grandprixfestival.com
15 BCCD 2007 Car Show * - Delaware City - Ed Ryan
16 Hagley Car Show
19 Club Meeting - Crabby Dicks - Delaware City *
29 MG's on the Rocks.

October

13 BCCD fall drive - Frank Porter Covered Bridge Tour *
17 Club Meeting - McGlynn's Pike Creek *
20-21 Auburn Heights - steam museum * Yorklyn, De www.auburnheights.org

November

21 Club Meeting - McGlynn's Pike Creek *

December

9 Christmas Party and Meeting *- Stone Barn - Karl Kaminski
??? Christmas Parade * - Delaware City - Details TBA

Trevor's Page

I'm sure you've all noticed that when a police car is in evidence everyone becomes a model driver, obeying speed limits, stop signs and traffic lights with exaggerated aplomb, even if the officer is otherwise engaged.

You would think, then, that the traffic police would make a great show of being there so that we would all behave ourselves and thus make for much safer roads. Presumably the traffic laws are there for that purpose.

It's odd, then, to observe that the police do their level best to hide from us. They drive unmarked cars with their police lights hidden behind the grill and behind darkened rear windows. They lurk over the brows of hills and round bends, behind trees and bushes, and even in the driveways of businesses. They are particularly fond of sitting in unlit roads with their lights out at night. I observed one of Maryland State's finest parked in the middle of an Interstate Highway with the trunk lid on his car open, hiding the lights in his roof and himself with his speed gun. I thought that, apart from being plain sneaky, this was a highly dangerous thing to do and saw a number of cars suddenly applying their brakes when they realized what he was.

This behavior is hardly conducive to road safety or the relationship between the police and the motoring public and yet it continues unabated. I would question whether the police are properly carrying out their duty to the public by such actions.

So why do the police hide from us? Don't they want us to obey the traffic laws? Clearly not.

When I first came to the US to live I became very confused by a lot of the things that went on, including the hiding police, until I realized that nothing here ever happens without the involvement of MONEY. Suddenly it all made a lot more sense. This may seem very cynical but the longer I am here (approaching 22 years now) the more I am convinced it is true.

The traffic police are not the guardians of the law they would have us believe. They would be out there encouraging us to drive at under the posted limit, stop at all stop signs and not accelerate when the traffic light goes yellow if they were. They are just money collectors for the counties and states.

There is an upside to all this. In the 20+ years I have been driving in the US I have received just 2 tickets (both from officers hiding on unlit roads at night – 1 unmarked car and 1 motorcycle) which cost be a total of about \$80. If we all obeyed the traffic laws our taxes would have to be raised to replace the income from traffic tickets. I bet THAT would have cost me more than \$80!

Thoughts:

The most important safety feature in your car is the one sitting in the driver's seat.

With cars full of airbags these days one forgets that the only airbag you really need is the one in front of the car – the space between your car and the one in front. The bigger the better.

If you are driving along and someone passes you on the right, you are in the wrong lane.