

**British Briefs**  
**British Car Club Midlands Centre**  
**December 2011**



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

President – Walt Brown [bccmcpres@gmail.com](mailto:bccmcpres@gmail.com)  
Editor: Sonya S. Stewart [bccmc2@gmail.com](mailto:bccmc2@gmail.com) / Jeanette Wells [wells6291@bellsouth.net](mailto:wells6291@bellsouth.net)  
Webmaster: Cliff Berry [bccmc1@gmail.com](mailto:bccmc1@gmail.com)

**BREAKFAST 11/05/2011**

We had a lively group at breakfast. There were over a dozen cars. Bill and Tina Beckman, Dave and Jeni Behning, Cliff Berry, Gary Bobo, Walt and Iris Brown, Thomas and Diane Caine, Chuck Cecil, Steve DeGroat, Clark and Elizabeth Gregory, Dave and Millie Headrick, Charley and Edith Hylton, Hal Kielvan and Gail Bragg, Stan Lacy, Dennis Lambries, Bart Lehman, Robert Muckenfuss, Connie and Cecil Myers, Chris Powell, Todd and Courtney Smith, Tony Stakis, Ed and Donna Stanfield, Wally and Sonya Stewart, Eric and Ross Szendrei, Ken Wells, Brad and Val Wik attended and Dennis presided. Ken gave a brief 'sermon' on serving as an officer for the coming year.



Ready for the buffet!



Yes, you're in Gamecock Country.



More than a dozen British cars at breakfast

### **NEW MEMBERS AND MEMBER UPDATES**

Happy October birthday to Lewis and Happy Anniversary to Lois and Lewis.

Celebrate November anniversaries for Steve and Margaret and the Hyltons. Celebrate November birthdays for Eric Szendrei and Tina Beckman.

Marion Carraway has been in Lexington hospital, was moved on November 6 to Providence Heart for bypass surgery. It was double bypass and he is improving every day. He is at home (11/17) following heart surgery last week. We hope for a swift recovery for Marion.

Brenda is doing chemo again. They'll be going to Duke for a new treatment. Janet will be there for treatment too.

Eddie has another trophy, how's that trophy case progressing?

If you're not at breakfast or let the editor know, events and celebrations and medical situations won't be in this article.

One of our members, Tecey Johnson, lost her sister on Tuesday morning, 11/15. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Tecey, Gary, and the family.

### **CBC VI**

You had until November 12 (AGM) to express an opinion on CBC VI location. Wally presented his view of the discussion – Tartan Fest.

At the AGM, Dave announced that the voting was 60/40 in favor of Tartan Fest. So mark your calendars now! He needs volunteers for the pre-show planning and work.

Fred suggested we add Wounded Warriors to our car show's benefit groups.

### **NOVEMBER AGM**

This most important club event of the year was held on November 12 at Flight Deck in Lexington. Dennis and Edith agreed to continue as VP and Treasurer, respectively.

That means we elected a new president and secretary. The lucky winners are Walt Brown for President and Tina Beckman for Secretary. Marque Secretaries will remain the same, except for Fred taking over MG.

Tony Stakis presented Fred and Betty with remembrances for their service to the club.

There were 34 in attendance.

Sonya Stewart has volunteered to relieve Edith of the regalia, so if you need club shirts or other items, contact her. Thanks to Cliff Berry for doing a great slide show for us at the meeting. He did it on short notice, but still had a lot of pictures from the events during the year.

### **TOOL DEFINITIONS**

**DRILL PRESS:** A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly-painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

**WIRE WHEEL:** Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, 'Oh sh -- '!

**ELECTRIC HAND DRILL:** Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

**SKILL SAW:** A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

**PLIERS:** Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

**BELT SANDER:** An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

**HACKSAW:** One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**WISE-GRIPS:** Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**OXYACETYLENE TORCH:** Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.

**TABLE SAW:** A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

**HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:** Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**BAND SAW:** A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminum sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

**TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST:** A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

**PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:** Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

**STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER:** A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms.

**PRY BAR:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part

**HOSE CUTTER:** A tool used to make hoses too short.

**HAMMER:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent to the object we are trying to hit.

**UTILITY KNIFE:** Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. It is especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.

**DAMN-IT TOOL:** Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling 'DAMN-IT' at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Next on the agenda is our Christmas party on the 3rd of December. The cost will be \$15 per couple, \$7.50 for single. More updates for you later! Remember, the cut-off was Nov. 12th.

Also, for our Christmas party, we are again supporting Harvest Hope Food Bank. If you would like to donate, bring non-perishable food items to the party with you. They will also accept cash or checks.

## **FAMILY**

There is a new family member at the Stewart house. Her name is Bubbles II (B2), she is a 1996 XJS. That convertible itch has been scratched.



## **DOUBLE LIFE**

By Cliff Berry

One of our members is leading a double life. Brad Wik, who with wife Valerie own Water's Edge Realty, also operates Brad's British Cars, a British car repair and restoration business ([www.BradsBritishCars.com](http://www.BradsBritishCars.com)). Brad, who has provided services to many club members, runs his shop from his well equipped garage. Brad's garage even includes a car lift and Brad can handle just about any job, from mechanical to electrical to body work and painting. Brad is also a parts distributor for Moss Motors.

One of Brad's recent projects was a bright blue Austin Healey Sprite which appeared at this year's Carolina British Classics show. Many would have considered the Sprite's previous condition as too far gone but a determined owner encouraged Brad to tackle it anyway. If you saw the Sprite at the show, you know that it was success. Brad's garage is also crowded with his own collection, consisting of a 1969 Jaguar XKE 2+2, a 1969 MGC, two 1981 Triumph TR8s and a 1959 Bugeye Sprite. One of the TR8s is a work in progress but the Sprite is undergoing a complete, as in every single nut and bolt, body and frame to bare metal, restoration. Brad tries to work on no more than two customer cars at time. For bigger projects, he prefers a pay as you go approach so there are no surprises at the end.

So if your LBC needs a little something, or if you have a bigger project in mind, check out Brad's British Cars. And if you prefer to do your own work, you can now have a backup plan for those jobs you don't have the time for!



**2011 CAR SHOWS AND EVENTS**

***December 3 - 6:00PM - No Monthly Breakfast - Annual Christmas Dinner at Marcie and Mike Speer's, 6 Westlake Road, Columbia, SC 29223 (Spring Valley)***

***SEC and ACC Championship games***

**2012**

***January dinner***

***January 7 - breakfast***

***February 4 - breakfast***

***March 3 - breakfast***

***March 31 - CBC VI and Tartan Fest at Columbia Speedway in Cayce, SC***

***April 27-29 – The Mitty, Road Atlanta, GA***

***June – MG Gathering at Dillard, GA***



MGB Registry

Photos from Cliff Berry