



THE OIL SPOT

The official publication of the British Car Club of Western New York



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President's Message

Happy New Year!

As we begin the new year and look forward to the return of warmer weather, I'd like to thank you all for being members of this club and continuing to participate in helping our club grow and evolve. As we move forward, one of my goals for us is to figure out ways to make our monthly meetings more informative and engaging and not a review of the meeting agenda for the minutes.

I mentioned during the meeting that I would like to know more about the stories of the club members cars, how they ended up with the cars they have and stories associated with owning an LBC. I mentioned that many people that I share the stories of my Dad's car would never refer to themselves as "car people" but enjoy them regardless. I'm a firm believer that many of the stories associated with this hobby are better than the cars themselves but you can't have the story without the car.

Our next monthly meeting is February 19th, 2025 at McPartlan's Corner Pub at 7pm. Come early and grab a drink and a bite to eat.

Happy motoring in 2025!
Pat Mullins

Event Calendar

The following is a tentative calendar of planned and proposed events for 2025. If you would like to add an activity or know of a speaker you would like to have at one of our meetings please call Cass Culotta at 716-545-0275 or Todd Schupbach at 716-435-4279.

February 15 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm, McPartlan's Corner Restaurant

March 15 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm

April 16 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm

April 20 - Ancaster British Car Show & Flea Market, Ancaster Ontario,
9 am - 2:00 pm

May 16 - 17 - Carlisle Import & Performance Show, Carlisle, PA

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Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Patrick Mullins

British Car Club of WNY Meeting Minutes

Date: January 15, 2025

Location: McPartlan's Corner Restaurant

Opening

Meeting called to order by President Patrick Mullins with seven members in attendance.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer's Report accepted.

Membership - No change since December.

Programs - Nothing to report.

Regalia - Nothing to report.

Web Master - Nothing to report.

Newsletter - We're changing the schedule for release of the newsletter to bi-monthly for Jan – April and Nov-Dec. All other months will be a monthly release. Minutes will

be made available via email every month.

Technical Session Coordinator
Randy would like to start up the "Tour Your Garage" Program.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 7:00 pm at McParten's Corner, 669 Wehrle Drive.



In Memoriam - Brian Neri

Looking at the morning newspaper, I discovered a story about several well known Western New Yorkers that have passed away over the last year. As usual, they missed a big one; Brian Neri, of Boston N.Y, who was long time member of the British Car Club, passed away in early December. Brian was an avid car guy but it did not end there. He was also into flying and owned his own Taylor Craft that he was learning to fly. He was also active in Military

history, and taught history at Lafayette High School for many years. Short wave radios, sail boats, firearms - both antique and military, motorcycles, Jeeps and other military vehicles were all part of his interests. He had a rather large collection of British automobiles and motorcycles and military radios, uniforms and reenactment gear.

Brian is survived by his wife Linda, a brother and a sister.

Respectfully contributed by Jay Lockrow

Memorial Schedule for Brian

Memorial Viewing - Friday, April 4, Lombardo Funeral Home, 3060 Abbott Rd., Orchard Park, NY

Funeral Mass - Saturday, April 5, 10am, St. John the Baptist Church, 6895 Boston Cross Rd. Boston, NY

Burial - Monday, April 7, 11am, National Cemetary, Pembroke, NY.



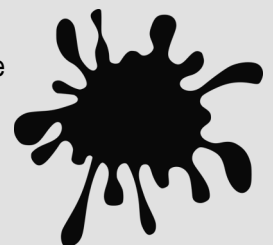
The **OIL SPOT** is the official newsletter of the **British Car Club of Western New York**.

The purpose of BCC is to foster good will and camaraderie among enthusiasts of British cars, and to exchange ideas and technical expertise attendant to the restoration and preservation of all British marques.

The monthly **OIL SPOT** is sent by e-mail or traditional mail to all BCC members. It includes a calendar of events, articles and photos of general interest provided by the members, and classified ads.

E-mail contributions should be sent by the 25th of each month to Linda at lmkula1@gmail.com. Attach the file, or type information in the body of the e-mail. You can also send articles through the mail to **Linda Kula, 1566 Inwood Avenue, Angola, NY 14006**. Photos should be in JPEG format. Articles are appreciated in MS Word or pdf formats. Classified ads appropriate to this newsletter are free. Ads run for three issues.

For further information or a membership application, visit our website at: www.bcc-wny.com.



Fool Me Once... by Jay Lockrow

December's Mystery Car

OK, the mystery car for December is a Bugatti; that I think you will know. But here is the question... Who knows the story of this car and its connection to Western New York? YES, there is a big connection and I will fill you in come January. Clue: ARCA.



The Story: To begin with, if you are a sports car enthusiast you should really know a little of the history of the happening. Most think it a happened right after the end of WWII but it really goes back further than that.

In the early 1930s a couple of teenagers started a club called the Overlook Racing Club. These teenagers were the Collier brothers and the group expanded and eventually became the ARCA or Automobile Racing Club of America. They started out racing what we would call go karts or jalopies today. As things progressed their equipment became better and actual races were started on street courses. Alexandra Bay NY was one of the early events as well as one in Marston Mills on Cape Cod and a few others. As the equipment became better and more unusual some real sports or racing cars made an appearance. Some of these members owned some of the first MGs imported into the country like J2s and later P types. There Was an Alfa Romeo or two, a Maserati and of course Bugatti's. The club had at least three Bugs including the one that raced at Watkins Glen in 1948 in the hands of Bill Milliken that flipped over and gave his name to the corner. The club was growing quickly and they even put on a race at the World Fair in New York in 1938. Sadly at the start of WWII the club was disbanded and was never re-started although attempted. Hence when SCCA was started it mushroomed quickly.

Many of the ARCA cars still exist and are being vintage raced but several over the years "disappeared." The American Bugatti Club keeps tabs on all the Bugatti's in the States but one particular type 37 was missing for over 40 years. This car had a Ford B block engine fitted and was raced at many of these early events. Several people had been looking for this car for years but no luck. When the owner, who lived locally, decided to sell the car he contacted the American Bugatti Club and the rest is history. The car is still being raced (I have seen it) and has been the object of several articles in motor magazines over the last few years. In particular find a copy of *Hemmings Sports & Exotic Cars*, March 2007 or get a copy of *American Road Racing the 1930s* by Joel Finn for the complete story of the club from the very beginning.



January/February's Mystery Car

I have used this on Facebook so let's see if people are watching. Extra credit if you know what the name stands for.

Jay (jaylock7440gmail.com)

FOR SALE & WANTED ADS

For Sale: 1968 Triumph Spitfire - Overdrive (not working), soft top and hard top, many spare parts. Runs and inspected. \$6500 OBO. Contact Bob Spaulding: 716-875-7712.

To place an ad, email Linda at lmkula1@gmail.com or call 716-809-0210.

BCC's Annual Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 18, 2024



Thank you to Robin Ullig and Janet McPhee for organizing and hosting our Holiday Party! We appreciate your dedication and hard work!



Event Calendar (Continued from page 1)

- May 21 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm
- June 8 - BCC Euro Day Car Cruise/Show - American Legion Lamm Post, Cheektowaga
- June 18 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm
- July 11 - Cruisin' in Medina - British and Foreign Car Night, Medina Senior Center, 5:30 - 8:00 pm
- July 16 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm
- July 28 - Lockport Optimist Club's British and Foreign Car Night Cruise
- August 20 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm
- September 4 - 7 - Watkins Glen Vintage Grand Prix, Watkins Glen, NY
- September 17 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm
- October 15 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm
- November 19 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm
- December 17 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm



Events for the Caffeinated



CARS & COFFEE AT THE RAILS!
LAKEFRONT BOULEVARD, DUNKIRK NY
SUNDAYS 9-11AM

Rumored to be starting in April...

[\(20+\) Cars & Coffee at the Rails! | Facebook](#)

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Music by **TheDJChannell**

Wimbledon Lanes
Cars & Coffee 2025

2025 Schedule Sundays 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Mark your Calendars

April 13 - May 11 - June 8 - July 13 - Aug 3
Sept 7 - Oct 5 - Nov 2 Rain Dates the Following Sunday

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JUN 15th Father's Day
AUG 10th Summer Special
SEP 28th Season Finale

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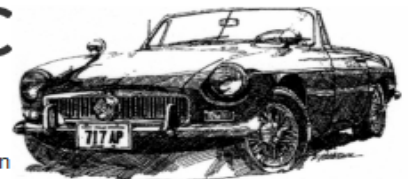
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British Car Club of Western New York



BCC President Patrick Mullins presents “Automobiles on the Silver Screen” Trivia to Holiday Party goers.

British Car enthusiasts from the area are invited to join our club for meetings, technical sessions and drives throughout the re-

See our Facebook page to exchange news, events, information, photos and humor at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/229699855909145>

For details on our meetings and organization, see our website at

<http://www.bcc-wny.com>



Linda M. Kula
1566 Inwood Avenue
Angola, NY 14006

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025 - Regular Meeting:
7:00 pm at McPartlan's Corner, 669 Wehrle Drive, Buffalo, NY 14225
Come early and have dinner!**