

Regular Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of each month unless otherwise posted.

**!!!SPECIAL NOTE!!!**

February meeting to be held at Bill & Gail Masseys on Sunday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at the end of the garage tour. See flyer in this issue



**The Cape Fear British Motor Club Welcomes all Marques, Models and Motoring Enthusiasts**

For additions or submissions to newsletter contact the editor, Dale Masters at 270-7762 or [dcilmasters@earthlink.net](mailto:dcilmasters@earthlink.net)

Visit the website: [www.bmccf.org](http://www.bmccf.org)

## *The Hub*

Volume 7 No. 2

February, 2005

*The Official Monthly Publication of the British Motor Club of The Cape Fear*

### **Presidents Message**

I read an article in this months Carolinas Austin Healey Club newsletter that made me reflect on the benefits of being kind to your fellow man. Boy, that sounds like the beginning of a philosophical journal. The article was about our last Brits & Battleship show and what a great time these attendees had.



In addition to the BMCCF I also belong to the Carolinas and Oregon Austin Healey clubs, both of which I participated in for many years. We had never had anyone from the Carolinas club attend our event, so I issued a general invitation to club members to stay at my home during the weekend event, hoping to stir some interest. It would

also be nice to spend some time with some of my old friends again. (2) Members took us up on it and came down. We had a great time! They had a great time! This year, I am sure they will bring many more back to the event, and I will try and pack as many as I can into our home.

Many of you, I'm sure, have car enthusiast friends here in the Wilmington area or in other parts of the country, that too would have a great time at our events. Not just the big show, but many of our monthly activities. Invite them to join you. You will be surprised how actions like that will also significantly enhance your enjoyment of our activities.

Sorry I missed the Big Kickoff Party, but we had a chance to float around the Caribbean for a few days and took it. I understand it was a smashing success, thanks to the efforts of John Foster and Edie Cutler and the delicious food you all brought in. See you at the Garage tour, and if you don't like to tour garages, at least come for the wind up at my home later in the day.

Bill

**(Ed. Note: The February business meeting will be held at the end of the garage tour at Bill & Gails home, so please plan on being there. See the flyer in this issue.)**

### **\$\$\$ DUES ARE DUE \$\$\$**

Don't let your membership lapse, Send your 2005 dues in now.

\$20 - Make check out to BMCCF and send to Linda Masters, 610 Olde Point Rd. Hampstead, NC 28443

## Coming Events

### February

**13th** - Garage tour – A tour to several members shops to check out what they're doing to get their cars ready for the 2005 season. We'll wind up at Bill & Gail Massey's for a wine and Chili party. See flyer in this issue Contact Dale Masters @ 270-7762 or [dcllmasters@earthlink.net](mailto:dcllmasters@earthlink.net) to sign up.

### March

**17th** - Regular Meeting , Venue TBD

### April

**22-24th** - The 20th Annual South-Central British Car Gathering - for more information: [www.triumphclub.org/the\\_gathering.htm](http://www.triumphclub.org/the_gathering.htm), [www.sheltonvinyards.com](http://www.sheltonvinyards.com), or email Jamie Palmer at [tr6driver@yahoo.com](mailto:tr6driver@yahoo.com) or Steve Ward at (704) 553-0135

**28th** – British Car week, see article in this issue

### May

**22th** Bluegrass Austin-Healey Spring Tour  
This is a warm-up for British Car Week! Tour of the Blueridge Parkway begins in Cherokee, North Carolina and ends in Waynesboro, Virginia. This tour begins on May 22 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee and will finish May 27 at Waynesboro at the I-64 interchange.

Please contact Bob Thurman at:  
[rrthurman@tva.gov](mailto:rrthurman@tva.gov)

**13-15** at Road America under SVRA\* Road America is also referred to as Elkhart Lake, and is located some 60 miles north of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

### June

**10-12** at Virginia International Raceway under Gold Cup Historic Races\* VIR is located 20 miles southeast of Danville, Virginia right on the Virginia/North Carolina border.

**16-19** at Watkins Glen International Raceway under HSR\* Watkins Glen is located in upstate New York at the southernmost tip of Seneca Lake.

**24-26** at Mid-Ohio Sportsscar Course under SVRA\* Mid-Ohio is located 70 miles north/northeast of Columbus, Ohio near the town of Lexington.

### June – cont'd

**26-July 1** at Conclave in Winston-Salem N.C. (This is a non-race event.) The Triad Austin Healey Club has graciously invited us to end the AUHC surrounded by the sights and sounds of the Austin Healey Club of America's national meet, honoring the participants of the AUHC with an awards banquet on Wednesday night.

In addition to the great group racing at these events, the sanctioning bodies have granted the AUHC all-Healey feature races!!!

### July

## BRITISH MOTOR CAR CLUB OF THE CAPE FEAR

2005 Kickoff Party, January 15th 2005

Sea Path Yacht Club

Submitted by:

Dan and Estelle

The Kick Off Party was a rousing success. Despite the cold weather there were at least 20 cars and about 55 people present. For many members it was their first function in a long time. There were lots of different cars too, and some of our more "unique" members came in open cars with the roofs down.

LUMINA NEWS printed an article with pictures about this event in their CHANNELS Supplement, dated January 20th - January 26th edition, on page B-2. (See reprint in this issue)

The food was absolutely delicious. Thanks to John Foster who purchased food and coordinated member contributions. Thanks to all the members for their culinary delights.

Paul asked those present to chip in \$5 if they wished to help defray the cost of the rental, and there was a good response.

Accolades to Edie Cutler (new member) who made the arrangements for us to use the Seapath Yacht Club clubhouse, and for the club to receive publicity in LUMINA NEWS. She thanks everyone for their help in cleaning the room.

# British Cars Embark On Wrightsville Beach

## Motor Club Meets At Seapath

By Crystal Allen

Staff Writer

Seapath Yacht Club's parking lot was packed with cars on Saturday – cars that may look more at home in London than at Wrightsville Beach.

The British Motor Club of the Cape Fear (BMCCF) kicked off the year with a potluck covered dish social at Seapath.

"It was cold outside," said member Edie Cutler. "But we had a good time."

The BMCCF currently has 124 members with 92 cars. The vehicles range from Jaguars to Aston Martins.

John Foster, a resident of the club, said about 55 people came to the event at Seapath. "It was our first outing there," he said.

The club began eight years ago as a way for British car lovers to get together, Foster explained. "It was formed for the camaraderie of owning a British mark car," Foster said. "The expertise of people in the club about part sources, repairs and general upkeep about the vehicle is also valuable."

Some of the unique cars include a 1958 MGA, a 1951 Bentley, a 1948 MG TD and a 2004 Mini-Cooper S, Foster said.

"They don't have to be old cars," he said. "What we sort of lean towards are cars by a British manufacturer. We don't discriminate. We have people with non-British cars."

The group also holds various social functions throughout the year, including garage tours of members' houses and trips to Beaufort.

"We enjoy each other's company," Foster said.

crystal@luminanews.com



Staff photos by Beth Watson

Top: The British Motor Club of the Cape Fear had about 55 people attend the event at Seapath Towers on Saturday, Jan 15. Above: Howard Bollinger (left) takes a look at the engine of Tom Roberson's 1964 XKE Jaguar5 .

## HOT NEWS

North Carolina Bill to Reduce Historic-Vehicle Registration Fees: SEMA is supporting North Carolina legislation, H.B. 2665, to reduce the annual registration fees for historic vehicles to \$10, plus a one-time additional fee of \$10 for a historic license plate. Currently, historic-vehicle owners must pay the regular annual registration fee of \$20 plus the \$10 historic-plate fee, thereby creating a disadvantage to register historic vehicles.

Consequently, many qualified vehicles are not registered as historic, and owners do not take advantage of the opportunity to pay reduced taxes—an option available to historic vehicles. Under current North Carolina law, historic plates can be issued for a motor vehicle that is at least 35 years old. Vehicles registered under this class must be maintained primarily for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades and other public interest functions and only occasionally for other purposes.

### *Carolinas AHC Scores a Broadside at Battleship*

Several members of the Carolinas AHC were welcomed by the British Motor Club of the Cape Fear (BMCCF) at their **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Brits & Battleship Car Day** on the shores of the Cape Fear River next to the USS North Carolina battleship. The setting for the show was perfect, with the historic waterfront of Wilmington across the river and the battleship serving as the backdrop. The weather was also perfect with bright sunshine and a slight breeze quickly dispatching the chilly morning temperatures.

Long-time Carolinas club members, Bill and Gail Massey offered to host members making the four hour trek across the state and temporary bachelors, Chuck Reeves and Dick Lunney took them up on their offer as they were hoping to find some "*Desperate Housewives*" as their wives had left them alone to travel to Boston and Cleveland respectively. Fortunately for everyone, the boys stayed busy with car activities that included a Friday evening dinner with the BMCCF members and other out of town registrants including a bunch from Charlotte's Metro-lina MG Car Club at Fat Tony's restaurant on the Wilmington waterfront.

The Massey's home proved to be a wonderful surprise that kept their guests entertained as they learned about its 150 year old history and the Massey's 2½ year odyssey of research, restoration and repair. The result is a stunning Victorian home that is filled with beautiful antiques for Gail and a new kitchen for Gail, as well as a great work shop for Bill, a huge model train room for Bill and a new three car garage for Bill.

At the car show, the Charlotteans won more than their share of awards including Dick Lunney winning the top award for Healeys followed by Chuck Reeves and Bill Massey winning second and third. On the MG side, Don Wisch won in the "T" class with his beautiful TF and Jerry Hicks won a second place with his beautiful white chrome bumper MGB with a red hardtop. Chuck Reeves also won the Long Distance Driven Award with an amazing 3,040 miles traveled from his home in Columbus, NC, apparently just outside of Seattle. Also joining in for the event were Charlie and Peggy Grobusky and Alex Superak from the Triad Club. There were seven Big Healeys and two Bugeyes in the show that had over 80 cars on the grass field.

This is a wonderful event with a real cross section of beautiful automobiles. Best-of-Show went to a lovely Morgan recently restored by Dale Masters, author of *The Body Under The Bonnet*, a murder mystery British car enthusiast who finds a body under the bonnet of a rare car found in a barn. There were also several neat American classics including an early Mustang convertible, a Cobra, a Vette and a neat Studebaker Commander.

I know the Lunney's and the Reeves are planning to return next year (and bring the wives), so mark down the first weekend in November 2005 right now for a great event!

*Story by Dick Lunney*

BRITISH MOTOR CAR CLUB CAPE FEAR  
Minutes of the Meeting January 15th, 2005  
At The Seapath Yacht Club

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM by Vice-President Paul Bruckner. He introduced new members: Ivan White (70 MGB), Chip Cooper (1980 MGA), and guest Pete Mullen (1961 LOTUS).

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Executive Committee Meeting.

Dale reported the highlights. Terry Smith will serve as activities coordinator. Proposed activities will be printed in the February Newsletter. Vice-president Paul Buckner will Chair the November 5, 2005 Car Show at the Battleship. There is a need for volunteers to help, please call or email Paul.

#### EVENTS

The 1st Car Show of the season will be the Gathering at Blue Ridge (Dotson, NC) April 23, 24th. Paul plans to distribute flyers for Our Battleship Show at the Gathering. BMCCF Garage Tour on Sunday, February 13th. (See "New Business")

#### ANOUNCEMENTS

Paul announced that the next regular meeting will be held at the Reel Cafe on February 17th, (100 South Front St., Wilmington)) Another suggestion was Oleanders (Formerly Annabelles).

Club Dues (\$20) are now due. After March 1st members will be removed from the list. There was an excellent article about our event at The Boys and Girls Club at Lake Waccamaw, published in the British Margue (a newspaper for those car clubs who don't publish newsletters). Paul wrote the article.

Dale Masters will assemble the Newsletter for the Website. He and Art are working on making it easier to print. Dale asked people to submit articles, and information about other club's events. You can get a copy of our Newsletter online. It is important that you use the online version if you possibly can, because it is expensive to print and mail hard copies.

#### TREASURER REPORT

The Treasurers report will be presented at the next meeting.

#### SECRETARY REPORT

The Minutes for November 2004 meeting were accepted as printed.

#### DISCUSSIONS

Edie Cutler asked about a "Tech session", and this is being worked on.

Trudy Williamson said she hoped that everyone would say "yes" when Paul called for help with the Battleship Car Show.

#### NEW BUSINESS

There will be a GARAGE TOUR on Sunday February 13th starting at 9:00 AM. The tour will begin at the Master's house in Hampstead (613 Olde Point Road, off Hwy 17 and Country Club Road) and end at the Massey home in Wilmington. If you have a garage available, let Dale know.

Terri Smith distributed a memorandum to all Inspection Agents from the NC Department of Transportation stating: if you have a vehicle 35 years old or older, it does not have to be inspected. (Including the emission control inspection). There followed a discussion about antique plates. Since there was a difference of opinion concerning the plates, Terri will do some research and report at the next meeting.

#### NEXT MEETING

February 17th at the Reel Cafe.

#### MOTIONS MADE AT THIS MEETING

Joe Benkel moved to Adjourn, Seconded by Meritte Guthrie.

Respectfully Submitted.

Estelle Samel



## **BIRTHDAYS**

Judy Antos	2/23
Rita Travis	2/20
Buddy Batson	2/21
Chip Cooper	2/13
Larry Neu	2/19
David Reynolds	2/23
Fran Gallagher	2/28
Belvidere Hodnett	2/19
John Horne	2/19
Estelle Samel	2/20
Renee Sheridan	2/19

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Rick & Martha Blacher	2/14
Gary & Sandra Krickscoun	2/14





**FEBRUARY 13th  
10:00AM SUNDAY MORNING  
TOUR TO START AT:  
THE MASTERS' GARAGE  
610 Olde Point Rd.  
Hampstead, NC 28443**

The tour will proceed to five club members garages to gawk at ongoing projects, kick tires and tell lies. Be sure to bring a snack, we won't be stopping for lunch.

We will finish up at Bill & Gail Massey's home where all those who declined to spend the day on the road in drafty old cars and standing around on cold garage floors will meet us with pots of chili, wine and other good things to eat. **NOTE:** The normal February business meeting will take place at this time so even if you don't want to participate in the tour, plan on meeting us for the party.

**PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL TO SIGN UP**

**BILL & GAIL NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL BE SHOWING UP AND I NEED TO COORDINATE WHO'S BRINGING WHAT!!!**

**Dale & Linda 270-7762 [dcllmasters@earthlink.net](mailto:dcllmasters@earthlink.net)**

# Classified Ads

<p align="center"><b>Creative Ads</b>          CUSTOM SILKSCREENING          T-SHIRTS, SWEATS, JACKETS, HATS, BUMPER STICKERS,          VINYL, PLEXIGLASS, NOTEBOOKS</p> <p align="center"><b>CHRIS MOORE</b>          100-C EASTWOOD ROAD          WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28403          910-791-0035</p>	<p align="center"><b>Wilmington Auto Finishes</b>  <b>Rick Blacher</b>          5665 Market St.          Wilmington, NC 28405          799-5433 520-5600</p>
<p align="center"><b>Greenside Mews</b>          Classic British Auto &amp; Repair          D. C. Masters          610 Olde Point Rd.          Hampstead, NC 28443          (910) 270-7762  <a href="mailto:dcllmasters@earthlink.net">dcllmasters@earthlink.net</a></p>	<p align="center"><b>AUTOWORKS, INC.</b>          Foreign &amp; Domestic Auto Specialists          We service all types of vehicles          From 1950's to 2004          Carl Wilson, Terry Tracy          (910) 791-5074          6748 Market St.          Wilmington, NC 28405</p> <p align="center">Technical advice for members!</p>
<p align="center"><b>1971 MGB GT</b></p> <p>Rebuilt engine, new BRG paint, new tan interior,          tires, brakes, etc. Excellent condition. \$3800</p> <p align="center">Shelby Jones: (919) 467-4426 (Raleigh)</p>	<p align="center"><b>BMCCF NAME TAGS</b>          Official BMCCF nametags are required at all          events or when you are representing the club.</p> <p>Originally ordered name tags are now available          from Linda Masters (910) 270-7762          \$4.50 Pin Clasp          \$7.00 Magnet Clasp</p>
<p align="center"><b>1970 MGB-GT</b></p> <p>BRG, biscuit interior, O/D, 5K miles on rebuilt motor, 15 in. 72          spoke wheels, Mechanically sound, no rust, needs body tlc</p> <p align="center">Dale Masters 270-7762</p>	<p align="center"><b>1979 MGB</b></p> <p>White, Black interior. 69K miles, all original as it left          the factory. Immaculate car.</p> <p align="center">Ernie Horning          (843) 215-2790          Myrtle Beach</p>
<p align="center"><b>Strip- Tech</b>          Soda Blasting Process          Bobby Holt Jr. Cell: 910-231-5988          Free Estimates Home: 910-681-0030</p>	<p align="center"><b>1978 MGB</b></p> <p>Black top - Mint- 78K miles          Extra engine and transmission          \$6,500 obo          Ed Loreck          471-3101</p>
<p align="center"><b>1965 MGB</b></p> <p>Less than 2000 miles since restored late 1980's. Early 1965 -          pull door handles. Original wires, stainless exhausts,          electronic ignition, red with black interior. Great chrome. Rust          free. Spares. All records and receipts. \$7000 firm.          Billy Rae Scott          395-2925</p>	<p align="center"><b>The Body Under the Bonnet</b>          A mystery novel for lovers of classic British cars.          Contact D. C. Masters          (910) 270-7762 or <a href="http://www.thebodyunderthebonnet.com">www.thebodyunderthebonnet.com</a></p>



