

British Car Club of Southwest Florida (BCCSWF)  
Minutes of Meeting-February 14, 2017

The January meeting of the BCCSWF was held at the usual location of Famous Dave's in Fort Myers, Florida with 37 members attending. Four guests were introduced: Larry and Marsha Mccartt owners of a 1981 Rolls Royce and a 1980 Austin Mini Cooper; and Bill and Cindy Wood owner of a 1973 MGB but Bill informed the group that he has had a "whole bunch of British Cars" including a Bugeye Sprite.

In Lauren Welch's absence, Rollie Welch summarized the treasurer's report. Membership now stands at 63 with many more memberships yet to be renewed. On a sad note, it was noted that recent new club member Barry Swartz passed away on February 4. Barry had proudly displayed his black Jaguar XKR at the Celtic Festival a week before his death.

Rollie Welch mentioned the email threads about recommended oil for British engines along with chrome plating shops. The copy and paste task of emails are a bit of a pain, but do directly communicate to members interesting topics. Cal Calvert graciously donated small MG pins (for hats or lapels) to any club member who wanted them. Lionel Hill was noticed trying to find one that resembled his MGA.

Rollie Welch mentioned that the club always welcomes any articles and photographs to be presented to the British Marque.

Webmaster Gary Eidson stated that several vendors have approached him asking to display their products on our webpage. The club feels that is not the purpose of the webpage rather it is in place to discriminate club information to its members. Bill Newman said he did not want the club to morph into a for-profit organization.

Gary also mentioned that he would like someone who is computer savvy to help out and possibly take over the webmaster duties. This person would work closely with the British Marque.

In new business, Bill Newman recapped the list of upcoming events especially the B.I.G. (British, Italian, German) car show coming up on March 5. Sponsored by the Southwest Florida Triumph Club and organized by Dennis McKinley, this show draws a wide range of interesting vehicles. At this time 45 cars are registered, many by BCCSWF club members.

There was much discussion about the casual rally organized by Rob Frost which will happen on Sunday, March 26. The rally has to be limited to 12 vehicles due to the neighborhood around the roads. Folks don't want a fleet of British cars zooming by for hours.

Jackie Hill outlined the details of the Annual Club Picnic that will be held Sunday, March 19. Specific details and directions will be put out to club members via email in the near future.

Bill Newman mentioned that if club members are having trouble finding 13 or 14 inch tires for their British cars, he recommends [www.onlinetires.com](http://www.onlinetires.com). Through that website Federal tires can be found for around \$40.

Cy Ling mentioned that August 11-13 is an event called Roverfest in the U.K. honoring the Rover V-8 engine. Cy is concerned that steps need to be taken to preserve the heritage of British cars as European governments are placing driving restrictions on older cars built before 1977.

Gary Eidson and Bill Newman mentioned that SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association) has taken steps in California to confront automobile restrictions for older cars. Bill and Gary suggested contacting SEMA if there's concern about harsh vehicle laws being implemented.

Peter Sales re-capped the Cars on Fifth event that happened February 11. Of the 34 registered cars for the BCCSWF, 27 of them showed up which was a solid representation. Peter then wowed the group by displaying his Best in Show trophy for his 1962 Jaguar Mark 2. That was a big thrill for Peter and members expressed great admiration to him.

Bill mentioned the upcoming SCCA Vintage racing at Sebring which recently had a German vehicle emphasis. Bill told us about a Jaguar E-Type that had two spark plugs per cylinder making the engine look like an electronic nightmare but was still very slow. Bill shook his head about a Bugeye Sprite that ran into a wall and was all but destroyed.

Tom Brewsaugh told a wild story as he was flagging Turn 7 where a Jag was racing a Porsche. The Jag broke late and ran into the door of the other car. Turns out the two drivers were father and son! They were totally concerned on how they would tell the wife/mother about the damage!

Mary Newman won the 50-50 raffle of \$51.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14. Check the [BCCSWF.com](http://BCCSWF.com) site for more information.