

British Car Club of Southwest Florida (BCCSWF)  
Minutes of Meeting-April 14, 2015

The January meeting of the BCCSWF was held at the usual location of Famous Dave's in Fort Myers, Florida with a combination of 42 old and new members plus guests attending.

President Cecil called the meeting to order and minutes from the March meeting were approved.

Visiting guests were recognized. Jeff Wilson was introduced as a new member and owner of a Lotus Elise. Guests Ann and Al mentioned they are proud owners of a Rolls Royce Silver Cloud. Guest Brian Alois from Massachusetts told the group he used to own a MG TC, TD and Austin Princess.

Treasurer Lauren Welch gave the Treasurer's report with details as follows:

Beginning Balance: \$2445.19  
Expenses: \$357.96  
Income: \$390.00  
Ending Balance: \$2477.23

Activities Coordinator Gary Dworkin summarized upcoming events in which the club will participate. Gary mentioned steps are in motion to organize the Holiday Party in December. The club gathered in Fort Myers on Saturday, April 18 and caravanned about 15 miles to the Alva Diner, home of the World's Greatest Pancakes. Over 30 people made the brief journey in more than 15 British cars and enjoyed breakfast on a lovely Southwest Florida morning. Thanks to Ken Oehler for his organization of the entire morning. Also thanks to the staff at the Alva Diner for being so nice to our group.

Gary reminded the club of May's activities specifically a joint picnic on Saturday, May 23. Gary also mentioned the annual trek to Arcadia to be part of the Memorial Day recognition of the British airmen who died there during World War II training exercises. Details are forthcoming.

Cecil Carter spoke to various items of club business. He recognized members who journeyed across Florida to Jupiter for the Wheels Across the Pond show. Over 260 cars were there and quite a few members of BCCSWF represented the club very well. Cecil also reminded the club of Cars and Coffee organized by the Porsche Club of Fort Myers held on the second Sunday of each month at the Porsche dealership. The address of the Porsche dealer is: 10064 Interstate Ct. Fort Myers, FL 33913 (near Exit 131 off of I-75).

Cecil spoke at length about the club's frustration with the website. Some promising leads of a few months ago have not panned out. The British Marque has stepped forward to offer their services. The cost is more than the club has been paying but the service seems more professional. The club voted to move forward with several members expressing the need for an up-to-date website that represents the club in a positive manner. A suggestion was presented to have a section for "members only" plus an additional section open to anyone which will enable promotion of the club.

Cecil also provided a summary of the club survey about participating in shows and events. The question of considering another meeting place, the survey revealed

concerns about parking, food and if the club leaves its present venue, would we be able to return if necessary?

Many people were in favor of undertaking a major car show sponsored by the BCCSWF. Cecil warned that this is a huge undertaking requiring much manpower and funding. However, many responses on the survey showed a willingness to “help out.” There is desire to pattern this possible show after the template so well done by the Triumph’s B.I.G show in March. There is hope that a BCCSWF show will draw other interested parties from all over Florida. Cecil mentioned he would be in favor of corporate sponsorship. Cecil would like a small committee to get started on this project as soon as possible and bring forth a possible proposal within two months.

Club member Gary Eidson gave an impassioned speech about dangers of switching insurance carriers for classic cars and how the Florida DMV cannot transfer the carrier in their system. Thus the situation may arise that, without your knowledge, your driver’s license could be suspended. This happened to Gary and he braved the miles of red tape to get it straightened out. It required a letter from his current insurance carrier and a face-to-face visit to the DMV. Gary recommends checking out the DMV site to view the current status of your license (especially if you recently changed insurance carriers on your classic car).

The newly formed Jaguar Club of Southwest Florida sponsors Java and Jags on the first Saturday of each month at Doc’s Beach House in Bonita Springs. The time is from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. The address for Doc’s Beach House is: 27908 Hickory Blvd. Bonita Springs, FL 34134.

Gary Dworkin was the winner of the 50-50 raffle but asked that the amount not be revealed due to his clandestine purposes.