

BLUEWATER BANTER

The Official Newsletter of the Bluewater Austin-Healey Club

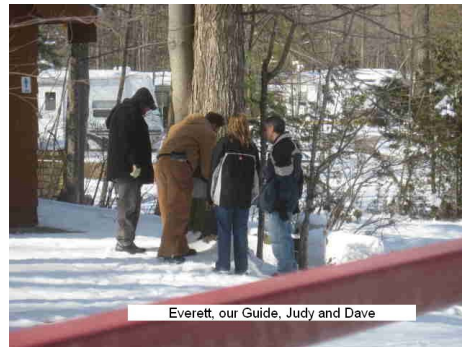
April, 2011



Pancakes and Maple Syrup

On Sunday, March 27th, Mary and Everett Adams hosted our monthly event – a tour and breakfast at a maple sugar bush. It was a beautiful day with the sun out to warm things up a bit. We met at the Tim Horton's (where else) in Bright's Grove. We grabbed a coffee to fortify ourselves for the trip to the sugar bush. It was a nice drive up along the lake. You could see that the snow was actually disappearing, albeit very slowly. When we got to the sugar bush our group was large enough to have a tour of the operation to ourselves. We could see the old bucket method used on a few trees, but we also got to see the newer method of running vacuum lines from tree to tree and collecting the sap at a central point. Once the tour was over we were taken back to the entrance for our breakfast. We had pancakes, sausage, baked beans, fruit salad and beverages. Once we were through eating we headed off to the store for another tour on how the sap is concentrated into syrup. We were also able to buy maple products like syrup, candies, maple butter and the like.

A big thanks to Mary and Everett for putting on such a great day!



HAPPENINGS

Business Meeting:

The business meeting for April will again be held at John's Restaurant on the Golden Mile (London Line). The meeting will be a Dinner / Business meeting. The dinner portion will start at 6:30 pm with the business meeting starting 7:30 pm.

The Year Looking Forward:

Month	Mtg Date	Event	Event Date	Who
April	6	Pub Night & British Sports Car Flea Market @ Ancaster	16 / 17	Barry Hiscocks
May	4	RM Restorations - Chatham		Gary Stephenson
June	1	The Docks Restaurant and River Run		Alan & Leya Laverdure
July	6	Car Rally		John & Helen Lomax
August	3	Ice Cream Social		Gerry & Diane Cossette
September	7	Car Show/ Goderich & Blyth Steam Thresher Show		Dan Moore/ Gildners & Hodgins
October	5	Fall Colour Tour		Mark & Judy Jones
November		AGM		Pam & Dave Gildner
December		Christmas Party		

Club Meetings & Events

The Business Meetings

The first two meetings at John's Restaurant were a success and so we are going to do it again – same place same time.

We had a good number of the “better half” come to the meetings and we hope the trend continues.

The April Event

Saturday, April 16th Barry Hiscocks is hosting a Pub Night at the Ups and Downs Restaurant and Pub.

The event will start at 5:00 pm and go!! Please RSVP to Barry by the 9th of April so that he can

And God Created Canada

On the 6th day, God turned to the Archangel Gabriel and said, “I'm going to create a land called Canada. It will be a land of outstanding beauty. It will have tall majestic mountains full of mountain goats and eagles, beautiful sparkling lakes, bountiful with bass and trout, forests full of elk and moose, high cliffs overlooking sandy beaches with an abundance of sea life and rivers stocked with salmon.

God continued, “I shall make the land rich in resources so as to make the inhabitants prosper, I shall call these inhabitants Canadians, and they shall be known as the most friendly people on Earth.

“But Lord”, asked Gabriel, “Don't you think you are being too generous to these Canadians??”.

“Not really”, replied God, “Just wait 'till you see the winters I'm going to give them.”

2011 Executive

President: : Pam Gildner: 519-869-4911 penguin@teksavvy.com

V.P: Gary Stephenson: 519-867-5555 – mackenzzy22@ebtech.net

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National Delegate: John Lomax - lomax@brktel.on.ca

THE BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CORNER

Our very best wishes to our Birthday Celebrants for the month of April. We have three birthdays to celebrate this month. Janet Smith gives the month a late start on the 22nd. Art Dunlop celebrates his birthday on the 25 of April and Mike Hodgins finishes the month for us on the 27th.

There is one anniversary to celebrate in April. Bob and Helen Lacroix have their anniversary on the 16th of April.

***“Happy Birthday”
“Happy Anniversary”
To everyone from the Club***

For those that we haven't mentioned we do wish you a “Happy Birthday” or a “Happy Anniversary”. If we have missed your dates we may not have your information, so please forward it to Ray Scott

Notes From in Front of the Keyboard

- 1) This month I'm trying a new printing service for the newsletter. I will evaluate the results as far as quality and price is concerned. Those of you that receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please let me know if the results are acceptable from your perspective.
- 2) As you can see on the Events Schedule, there are a lot of dates missing. If anyone can fill in some of those I would appreciate it.
- 3) I have received a membership list from Ray. It is current as of the beginning of April. I will send these out to the membership under a separate cover (it will NOT be in the newsletter).
- 4) I need items and articles for the newsletter, so please sharpen up your pencils and get something to me.

Minutes of BAHC Meeting – March 2, 2011 – John's Restaurant

Welcome

- President Pam Gildner opened the meeting and welcomed the members. 25 members were present, including many spouses.
- Note: the February meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Treasurer / Membership Business – Ray Scott

- \$2448 is in the bank. Most memberships are in now. There are no commitments outstanding other than \$500 for the car show.

Newsletter Business – Dick Green

- Nothing new. Judy Jones suggested that members could provide their favourite recipes to Dick for the recipe page of the newsletter – so go ahead and do that if you have a good one.

Upcoming Events

- March 27 (Sunday) 9:00 am – Mary and Everett Adams – Pancake breakfast at Williamson's Maple Syrup Festival near Ipperwash. Meet at Tim Horton's in Bright's Grove at 9:00 am. Cost is somewhere in the \$10-15 range. RSVP to the Adams by March 10.
- April 16 (Saturday) 5:00 pm – Barry Hiscocks – Pub Night at Ups'N'Downs. RSVP to Barry by April 9.
- The December event is open – if you would like to organize it, contact Pam.

Old Business

- Thanks to Mark and Judy Jones for an excellent February event at Limbo's and the Imperial, and to Bill and Patti Sisler for the fun bowling and Two Amigos event in January.

New Business

- Club member Mike Geddes passed away on February 27, 2011, at the age of 64 years. Visitation was at Smith's Funeral Home on March 3, attended by many members. The club sends its sincere condolences to Christine and the family.
- A discussion took place regarding holding the meetings at John's Restaurant. As in January, it took a while for orders to be taken and dinners served, such that the meeting didn't start until about 8:00 pm, versus the intended 7:30 time. There was only one server on duty most of the time. Several ideas were raised on how to start the meeting portion sooner. Ideas included getting orders taken as people came in, rather than after everyone had arrived. This would result in the serving of dinners being staggered also. Some thought this was okay, as it would spread the load in the kitchen; others thought it nicer if everyone eats at the same time. Another idea was to add another server. Another idea was to move up the arrival time from 6:30 to 6:00. Bill Sisler will discuss ways of speeding things up with the restaurant.
- A discussion took place on whether to hold future meetings at John's Restaurant. Some opinions were in favour of continuing; a few preferred the business meetings to not be combined with dinner, and spoke in favour of the Navy Club venue. A proposal was made to return to John's for April, which is the last month before meetings move to members' homes for the summer. In a show of hands on that proposal, all except about 3 hands were in favour of returning to John's for April. Bill Sisler will make the reservation.
- It should be noted that the only months of the year that are potentials for John's Restaurant (or another venue) are January-April and October, a total of 5 months, since the summer months are at homes, the November meeting is AGM, and there is no business meeting in December.
- Members are encouraged to read the newsletters and any mass e-mails to remain current on club events and business, and to bring any issues and concerns to the monthly meetings.
- Dan Moore announced that the first meeting of the car show committee is March 8, 7:00 pm, at his house.
- Patti Sisler presented some research she had done on a website. She had spoken with a contact at the AHCA to get the AHCA webmaster's name. She has sent a message to ask about the BAHC website being added to the AHCA website, but has received no response so far.
- Patti has looked into getting a new logo designed. Clear Design will do one for \$80+tax, including consultation, web and print versions, full ownership. Discussion took place on whether we needed a new logo. In support, Patti mentioned that a new logo could be made that would look more professional than our current one. It was, however, noted by John Lomax that our logo is well known as representing us throughout the AHCA in North America and even in the UK, and that it has value as our "brand" for that reason and because it stands out from other clubs' logos. Gerry Cossette noted that a year or two ago the club spent \$150 to have the logo redrawn in electronic form to be used for imprints on shirts, hats, and so on. Many members have recently bought the imprinted shirts and hats which would be obsoleted by a logo change.
- Patti outlined some ideas for a web presence including a site on WordPress (free), a FaceBook page (free), and a site on EBTech (\$10/month for hosting, \$25/year for a .org domain name, \$500 one-time fee for a JumpStart template, total cost including tax for the first year of \$811, subsequent years \$163 including tax). We would own the JumpStart site but would not be able to migrate it to another server. Other ideas from the members included a site within an Xcelco customer's account (free), a site within a Sympatico customer's account (free), a site within the non-profit area of sarnia.com as long as at least one member is an EBTech customer (Bill Park is) (free), and a site built with other Content Management Systems such as Joomla (free) hosted with a paid web hosting company.
- Patti is familiar with JumpStart and recommends it.
- Discussion ensued about the alternatives. It was decided that we should aim for a free alternative to start with, until we are satisfied that a website is needed by the club and that sufficient use is made of it. Once experience shows that the need and the usage is there, and if the free alternatives are found to be wanting, the club can consider migrating existing content to a tool such as JumpStart that costs money.
- Patti was thanked by the group for all of the work she did to research the topic.

- It was suggested that Patti should work with the website committee (3 members) to analyze the alternatives and come up with a recommendation to present at a future meeting. This was agreed.
- Patti offered to be the webmaster for the site – thanks Patti.
- Brian Carroll reported that absolutely nothing is happening in his shop.
- Barry Hiscocks mentioned progress on his Healey at Bob Yule's – the car is apart, there is lots of work to do, the frame is being replaced with one coming from Austria.
- John Lomax knows of a BJ7 or 8 for sale at \$20K with a Jule frame, new interior etc., body panels need to be put on and painted.

D.Gildner 03/04/2011

Stella Awards

In the March edition of the newsletter, I started a review of the Stella Awards. Throughout this newsletter I will continue to give examples of Stella Award runners-up and the winner. I hope you still have your head scratcher handy from last month for these are getting better and better.

Runner-up # 4.

Terrence Dickson, of Bristol, Pennsylvania, who was leaving a house he had just burglarized by way of the garage. Unfortunately for Dickson, the automatic garage door opener malfunctioned and he could not get the garage door to open. Worse, he couldn't re-enter the house because the door connecting the garage to the house locked when Dickson pulled it shut. Forced to sit for eight, count 'em, EIGHT days and survive on a case of Pepsi and a large bag of dry dog food, he sued the homeowner's insurance company claiming undue mental anguish. Amazingly, the jury said the insurance company must pay Dickson \$500,000 for his anguish. We should all have this kind of anguish.

Jewellery Party, or Car Part Party?

We women are always being invited to house parties, or "girl parties," as we call them. If it's not a Tupperware house party, it's Party-lite candles, Pampered Chef, or now the latest thing, jewellery parties.

Men, If you hear your wife or your significant other talking about Lia Sophia, she's not her new best friend. Beware, men, your spouse or girlfriend is about to spend money, potentially LOTS of money. What's worse? That money could be used for something that's REALLY necessary, like car parts.

I've been to these parties, so I know how they work. The display is always lovely. There will be beautiful tablecloths with all items carefully set out in an enticing arrangement. Of course every party includes food and beverages. We women eat, drink, chit-chat, and shop.

I got to thinking, how come there are no such parties like these for men? Yes, I know what you're thinking. Men are WAY too smart to get into such foolishness, right? Well, maybe not. Here's what I'm thinking.

Men could start their own trend. Why not have Car Parties, "or Car Part-ies"? Here's how they would go. Instead of tablecloths, there would be tarpaulin on the table. It would have to be in brilliant blue of course. I think it would be more inviting if it was eye-catching blue. The car parts could be strategically placed in such a way as to shout out "buy me."

Men like food too, but I'm thinking that serving desserts and only desserts would work best. The men could shop, talk, and then shop some more. Oh sure they'd have to have beverages, but that's easy. Beer for the beer drinkers, and water, coffee, or pop for those who prefer something non-alcoholic. Incidentally, at the "girl parties" the beverage of choice is wine, and more wine!

I can't see the guys' party ending the same way though. Somehow, I just can't imagine the guys shushing their buddies and whispering, "Shh, it's our secret. Let's not tell the ladies how much we spent. They won't let us come to the next party if they find out!"

So guys, want to earn some extra cash in your spare time? Be the first to start a new trend. Car part house parties, what a great idea! Oh but men, make sure your "guy party" is on the same night when we're at a jewellery party!

Submitted by: Pam Gildner - President

Chicken Mulligatawny Soup

Those of you that are familiar with Indian Cuisine know about Mulligatawny soup. If you are not aware here's something for you to try. It's a little out of the ordinary but good. Use your slow cooker.

Ingredients:

1. 6 skinless, boneless chicken thighs (about 400g)
2. ½ cup long –grain rice.
3. 2 cloves of garlic, chopped.
4. 1 tbsp Madras curry paste, patted with paper towel to remove excess oil.
5. 2 tsp minced fresh ginger.
6. 1 ½ tsp salt.
7. ½ tsp saffron threads.
8. ½ cinnamon stick.
9. 2 cups apple juice.
10. ½ cup coconut milk.
11. 1 green onion, thinly sliced.
12. green apple, cilantro and fresh lime for garnish.

Directions:

1. Remove excess fat from the chicken legs, then slice into thin strips. Combine with rice, garlic, curry paste, ginger, salt saffron and cinnamon stick in slow-cooker insert.
2. Pour in 5 cups of water. Stir until mixed.
3. Cook on low until the chicken is very tender, about 8 hours. (individual cookers may vary)
4. Stir in apple juice, coconut milk and green onion.
5. Remove the cinnamon stick before serving.
6. Garnish with grated apple, cilantro and a squeeze of lime. The soup will keep well, refrigerated, up to 2 days or up to a month in the freezer.

Serves 4

Stella Awards

Runner-up #3

Jerry Williams, of Little Rock, Arkansas, garnered 4th Place in the Stella's when he was awarded \$14,500 plus medical expenses after being bitten on the butt by his next door neighbor's beagle - even though the beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard. Williams did not get as much as he asked for because the jury believed the beagle might have been provoked at the time of the butt bite because Williams had climbed over the fence into the yard and repeatedly shot the dog with a pellet gun.

Pick a new spot to scratch, you're getting a bald spot..

Runner-up #2

Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, because a jury ordered a Philadelphia restaurant to pay her \$113,500 after she slipped on a spilled soft drink and broke her tailbone. The reason the soft drink was on the floor: Ms. Carson had thrown it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument.

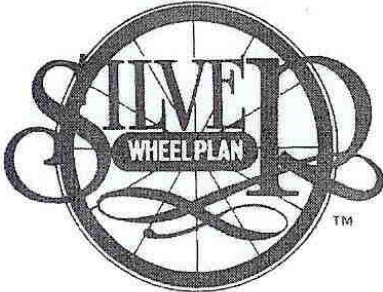
Only two more so ease up on the scratching....(coming next month)

Why Marry? (still more from Dave)

1. Marriage is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.
2. First guy says, 'My wife's an angel!' Second guy remarks, 'You're lucky, mine's still alive.'
3. A lady inserted an ad in the classifieds: 'Husband Wanted'. Next day she received a hundred letters. They all said the same thing: 'You can have mine.'
4. Just think, if it weren't for marriage, men would go through life thinking they had no faults at all.

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Business Hours: Monday to Friday – 8 AM to 5 PM

(Please note that we are no longer open on Saturdays)

Our Spring Garage Sale will be held on Sat. April 2nd, 2011. Sale hours will be 8:00 am until 2:00pm. We will be putting on our best deals to get your car ready for the coming driving season. As usual, most of our sale items will be on a TAX-FREE basis.

Coffee and Timbits will be on hand as well

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