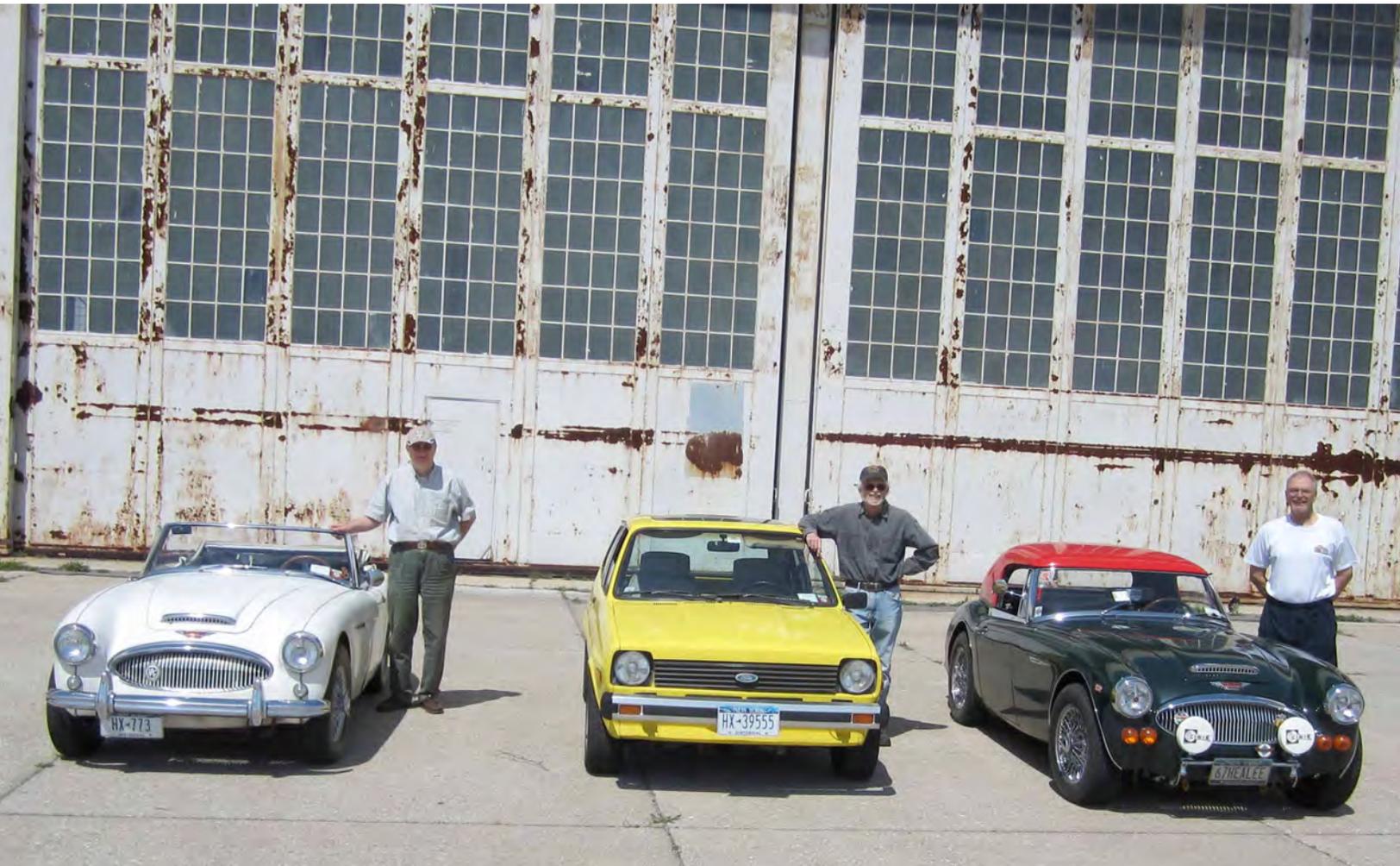


# The FLASH

MAY 2012 | ISSUE 415



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AUSTIN HEALEY SPORTS & TOURING CLUB



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*Main Cover Photo: Bob Maichin, Paul P., Bob Shaffsick from Long Island*

*Smaller: Janes Bond exhibit in England; Brandywine's April Tech Session; (L to R) Gerry Coker, Donald Healey, and Kurt Ritthaler at Encounter, 1986;*

# What's In The Flash

by Steve Jekogian

**H**ow do “car” adventures start? All of us had a desire or fantasy about a car and a quest to find the Healey “of our dreams”. And I am sure there’re stories about it and a story you tell people about “your personal Car adventure.

I love reading Don Hoffer’s stories about the “Healey Retrieval’s”. For those “newer” to the club, Don writes very funny stories about the adventures and misadventures of “helping” other AHSTC members bring home a “Healey find”. If I remember correctly it went one of a few ways, 1) they saw the car, and car got home, 2) saw car and car got close to home, or 3) saw car, and car did not get home--easily.

But back to where this article started, and I am writing this on Saturday 21 April, in a car service in England returning from “MY adventure”.

It started innocent enough in February as I was returning from a trip to Russia and I picked up a Classic car magazine at the Frankfurt airport. I saw an article about a special exhibition for the 50th anniversary of James Bond Films at the National Motor Museum in Beaulieu, South Hampton, England. The museum has assembled 50 pieces of Bond memorabilia from cars, planes, boats, crocodiles, subs, surfboards, jet packs, little helicopters, you know the “stuff Q” developed for Bond. 50 items for 50 years. It runs till December 2012 (National Motor Museum UK).

Looked like lots of cool stuff and the Montague family—yes you do know that name from English history and the car racing world has an estate called Beaulieu which is just beautiful (what Beaulieu means)



*Aston Martin DB 5*



*Little Nellie*

## What's in the Flash Cont...



*The Cougar that Diana Rigg sat in*



*From Russia with Love Boat*

Now to the adventure, I knew I would be flying back from Russia again so I built in an 8 hour layover in Heathrow, hired a car and made a dash to Beaulieu to see it all and it was really worth it.

What makes this relevant to AHSTC and us, is that people have purchased these “ iconic pieces of memorabilia and kept them just as we keep our cars.

These Bond timepieces are indullably etched in our minds from when we were young, and usually in a positive way. From the improbable Aston Martin with ejector seat to an AMC Javelin that’s does a spiral 360 to a Vanquish that vanishes.

What adventures have you been on or up to that you can share with us? Members have written about trips to Barrett –Jackson and vintage races that sounded great and is something I know other members want to do



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# Long Island

by Paul Parfrey

## LI Region Drives “The Ring”

Well, sort of... On a gymkhana course about ¼ of a mile long, the famous Nurnburgring was reproduced in miniature. The real Nurnburgring is a famous racetrack in Germany that has a section, the 14 mile Northern Loop, that is open to the public at times and is considered a public toll road when open. The toll is around \$42 per lap with no speed limit on certain sections. There are many accidents and a number of deaths each year. Your car insurance probably will not cover you there. At Floyd Bennett Field, the turns were very tight and many of the straights were slaloms so there was little of the danger of the real thing but great fun instead. Bob Maichin was happily sliding his Healey around. The 6th annual ENYMGA Spring Gymkhana was held on April 14th at Floyd Bennett Field. I can't say enough about this event, which combines friendly driving competition, old cars (and new), old airplanes, and DONUTS! The competing cars included 2 Healeys, C-type Jaguar, Triumphs (big and small), MGA's and B's. and a BMW. I was excited to see the return of the 1960 700 series BMW coupe. 700 series isn't what you might think. It is a wee little coupe with a 697cc twin motorcycle engine in the rear and in stock form all of maybe 40 horsepower. Bob Maichin, Bob Shaffsick and myself attended. A low turnout this time around allowed the participants more runs through the course. The fee was \$20 for all your laps and there is no airport security or baggage fees to get there.

Following the gymkhana there is always a tour of the historic aircraft hangars. The HARP group (Historic Aircraft Restoration Project) has been building a full-size replica of Wiley Post's Lockheed Vega “Winnie Mae” that was the first fixed wing aircraft to fly around the world in 1930. (The first round the world flight



*The Nurnburgring (“e” is an error)*



*Shaffsick Healey thru BMW*

## Long Island Cont...

was the Graf Zeppelin in 1929.) Post had a navigator then, but in 1933 flew solo around the world in the same aircraft using an auto pilot and radio direction finder that he helped develop. The HARP Winnie Mae fuselage was united with its wing that Saturday. (See photo.) And then we moved on to a seafood lunch!



Winnie Mae Gets Wing



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# Lehigh Valley

by Joel Keefer

It was a dark and stormy night....oh, wait, that's another story! It was a damp, cold, gray morning on March 31, not exactly the kind of morning that inspires one to take a run in the Healey. BUT, it was the day for the Lehigh Valley Region's first "Saturday Morning Tour To Wherever" of the year. Of course, the date the tour was originally scheduled, March 24, was a great day for driving...

Our road tour took us through some of the southwest corner of Lehigh County and into Berks County, as we wound our way to Triumph Rescue in Bally. Owner Matt Bakes hosted an open house and tech session on interior restoration. Whether it was the weather or the fact that several of our more active members are CPAs and in the middle of tax season, turnout for the tour was light. President Mike Bradley and Joel Keefer drove in Mike's Honda Element, while Ken Beck came directly to Triumph Rescue from his shop.

Brad, Triumph Rescue's interior guy, gave a great presentation, with lots of nifty tips on things do-it-yourselfers can do to achieve better results. One of the more surprising ones was his recommendation to use Lemon Pledge to clean interior surfaces. That was the second time I'd heard that recommendation this year, so there must be something to it.

Ken Weidner led another of his great tours on April 15, the latest in our "Saturday/Sunday Morning Tour To Wherever" series. Ken's tour actually took place on Sunday afternoon. Although there were only four cars and seven participants, we had a terrific time. We would have had two more, but Joel and Jolene's Bugeye decided to lock-up its front brakes on the way to the rendezvous and they had to cancel.

Ken led us on a nice half hour tour through the Topton area to his house where his wife had prepared a very nice lunch. During lunch, we watched two videos of the Fleetwood Hillclimb, one from 1963 and one from 1969. Ken Beck, who participated in that Hillclimb several times, entertained us with some stories of those events, even identifying the drivers and cars in the 1969 race.

After lunch, we enjoyed a tour of their restored 1800's farmhouse (Ken is doing much of the work) and then a tour of Ken's historic barn. Ken has quite a selection of Hondas, including a 600S sports car he is currently working on. Then we proceeded on another tour to Fleetwood and actually drove the old course.

Thanks to the Weidners for a great afternoon.

At our April meeting, we covered a number of topics, including some initial discussions on planning for Encoun-



*If ya can't drive, ya might as well catch some rays! Jolene does just that as we wait for the tow truck, missing the region's Tour To Wherever on April 15.*

## Lehigh Valley Cont...

ter 2014. Gerry Kunkle pointed out a couple of errors in the region's events calendar: The British Car Gathering in Hellertown is on Sunday, June 10, not June 9; and the Autumn Leaf Auto Show at Moravian Academy is on Saturday, September 29. That being the case, we'll shift our fall rallye to October 6. Region membership is down six members from last year; if you know of any Austin-Healey owners in the area who should belong to AHSTC, time to recruit them!

The LV Region's Spring rallye, scheduled for Sunday, April 22, was a rainout (at least we didn't get western PA's snow!) so the plan was to run it a week later on April 29. Upcoming events for May include another Saturday Morning Tour To Wherever – at Ken Beck's suggestion, we will join the British Car Club of the Lehigh Valley's Garage Tour on May 12. The Import and Kit Nationals at Carlisle is May 18-20. Stand by for more details about these events.

Next meeting is Monday, May 21 at the Top Diner in Allentown. Eat at 6:30, meet at 7:00. As always, watch for E-Flashes from Mike on upcoming activities and events.

### May

- 12: Saturday Morning Tour to Wherever
- \*18-20: Tour to Carlisle Import & Kit Nationals
- \*21: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner

### June

- 3: Sunday Morning Tour to Wherever
- \*9: British Motorcar Gathering, Hellertown
- \*18: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner (or ice cream run)

### July

- 14: Brits on t bhe Delaware, Kintnersville, PA
- \*15: LV Region Picnic & Monthly Meeting
- \*TBD: All British Car Show, South Abington Park, Clark's Summit, PA

### August

- 3-5: Das Awkscht Fescht, Macungie, PA
- \*8-11: AHSTC Encounter, Somerset, NJ
- \*20: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner
- \*TBD: Tour to Taste of Britain Polo Match and Car Show, Rothsville, PA

### September

- 9: Sunday Morning Tour to Wherever
- \*16: Tour to Buckingham Concours, Holicong, PA
- \*17: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner
- \*30: Fall Rallye

### October

- \*6: Autumn Leaf Auto Show, Moravian Academy
- \*15: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner
- \*TBD: LV Region Fall Wine Tour

### November

- TBD: Tech Session
- \*19: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner

### December

- 8: LV Region Christmas Party
- \*17: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner

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# Harrisburg

by Don Hoffer

Every year, about this time, the host region for next years Encounter is scrambling to choose a site so it can be announced at this years Encounter. Our veteran, battle scarred, chairman and his group of stalwarts are very close to making that choice. To put their location over the top, last months regular monthly meeting was shifted to that location to see if it would pass muster with the rest us.

We went for dinner and a tour of the building and grounds and found what you'd expect for a site built as a convention center - space for 2 or 3 simultaneously. "Hop along Hoffer" passed up the tour - I was gassed getting to the room in the back for dinner, but adequate space for us was clearly in evidence. Being "Ladies Night" the special gift card to Boscov's department store was awarded to Donna Sherk. The 50/50, which was also reserved for women, went to Liz Brockman, Donna "Double Dipper" Sherk, Priscilla Hooper and Dot Hoffer.

With 22 members attending our chairman got plenty of feed back. From rating the hot tub to rooms for events, staffing and parking lots for events all got mention from someone. Final decision will be revealed at Encounter 2012 in North Jersey. Rosenberg and his crew are a tough act to follow but a good location is a big help.

Speaking of tough acts to follow, Charlie Baldwin's well researched list of activities has been a great planning tool for many of our mob and being an old mobster myself, Charlie gets our 'pat on the back' for another job well done.

I'm on the verge of fulfilling my purpose in life as Carlisle Import Show looms ever nearer. That's



*Bob Preston discusses the hotel*



*Hospitality or Regalia*



*The Lobby*

# Harrisburg Cont...



*The Ballroom*



*The Indoor Pool*



*The Meal*

the show that will introduce my BJ8 to the light of day after a couple of decades of languishing in obscurity in the cheapest garages I could find. I will now be able to claim the following: I was born, bought my favorite car, joined a good club and got an Austin-Healey restored - destiny fulfilled!

May 18-20 Carlisle Import Show is the traditional start of our driving season and it never fails to draw out of your shady recollections of long ago some old croney you haven't seen since Healeys ran La Mons and you could still buy a new one. The weather is also iff, but if the sun shines the place is packed. Hope you get the chance to see us there - we'll be looking for you. Lunch for AHSTC members will be provided on Sat.the 19th.



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# North Jersey

by *George Crombie*

**E**gads! And yet another month has flown by! Area club activities and local car shows seem to be pacing themselves this spring. I have not been out to any, nor have I heard from anyone in the area who has. I do know that many of the North Jersey faithful got together at the home of Steve and Lynn Jekogian in Morristown in early April to finalize plans for this year's Encounter. Attending the meeting on April 2nd were Tom Mulligan, Richard Ippoliti, Allen & Ginny Rosenberg, Andy & Martha Smith, Mark Goodman, John Moore, Bob Pense, Art Herkomer, Steve Feld, Ralph Scarfogliero, George Crombie, and, of course our hosts, Steve & Lynn Jekogian. Steve and Lynn laid out a spread to feed the masses in the hopes that, if we weren't busy eating, we would be busy digesting, and the meeting would progress in a somewhat quick and orderly manner and that we would be wrapping things up before midnight. Boy, did we fool them! We did, at least, finish before the coach turned back into a pumpkin. We spent quite a bit of time going over the schedule, with everyone confirming that their specific assignments were under control. There were, indeed, a few rather loud and tense moments at times as we tried to see what we could fit into the program. As such, part of it is still a work in progress. But we'll get it all ironed out in plenty of time for the big show in August.

We finished early enough to adjourn to Steve's garage where we took the opportunity to check out the progress Steve's making on the AN5 he is restoring. He has made quite a bit of progress; the little bug actually



## *North Jersey Cont...*



looks like a Sprite! We held a mini tech session on the spot. The topic was the proper way to remove (and prepare to replace) the glass in the windscreen frame. Without the use of either a mallet or an even larger hammer, mind you! If my memory serves me correctly, the surgeon (aka “doctor” John Moore) requested a scalpel (screwdriver) from his assistant (aka Steve Jekogian), and proceeded to operate on the defective part in question. When all was said and done, the surgical team had performed a successful glass-ectomy. The amazing part of all this was that the entire operation was completed without any bloodshed! I may be speaking slightly out of line, here, but I am willing to go out on a limb and declare that this team of specialists is ready for the big time!

Back on the home front, I ordered a replacement fuel tank and accessories from Moss Motors for Little Red following our little adventure at the end of March. Sarah took the tank in to Somerset County’s Vo-Tech Auto Body department for them to clean up and paint for us. We got it back on Monday, April 23rd, and proceeded to install it the following day. First, the fuel tank looked great right out of the box when it arrived; it even came with the cork gasket for the fuel sending unit, as well as the sending unit mounting screws. That was a nice surprise. One complaint that I had with the replacement tank was that it did not have a drain plug, nor even the hole for one. I kind of like that feature. It came in real handy during our adventures last month when we were trying to empty the tank in a hurry. Another

## North Jersey Cont...



problem I encountered was that the six mounting holes were slightly out of alignment. The funnel, on the other hand, needed to come with instructions. With a lot of shifting, adjusting, and forcing (I didn't even touch a screwdriver, I swear!), we were finally able to get five of the six holes to line up. I can not begin to tell you how tempted I was to reach for the big hammer by this time. Instead, I had Sarah get me my DeWalt cordless drill, and I reamed that remaining hole just a little bit bigger. I didn't exactly ream it a new one, but I surely did do some minor surgery on that lousy... Why is it that most "replacement parts" don't fit as well as the originals? After that, I needed to take a break and regroup. As I write this (9:25 PM on the 25th) Sarah has just come home with a gas can full of fuel. We will put it in the car tomorrow evening, after work, and check the fuel gauge. Did I tell you that I'm pretty sure I found the problem with that? When I had pulled the sending unit off the old tank, I noticed that the connecting lead in the float register was broken. A few years ago, shortly after I bought Red, I bought a replacement sending unit. I

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## North Jersey Cont...

had hoped it would have been as easy to replace that in the Sprite as it is in my BN2, but no such luck. I put it off, knowing that I would have to drop the tank to get to it on the Sprite. As it is getting very close to the time to put this article to bed, I'll have to let you know how it went next month; unless you happen to be at the next Encounter planning meeting, which is coming up on Tuesday, May 1st at 7:00 PM. Rumor has it that it will be held at the Bamboo Grill in Morristown again. It will (or should be) history by the time you read this, so I guess it's a darned good thing you read the e-Flashes that come your way on a semi-regular basis, isn't it?

I'm sure there will be quite a few shows and other events coming up in the next few weeks. I know that the Carlisle weekend is in early May, as is the show in HoHoKus. The Red Mill Show is in early June, and so are the Highland Games at Bonnie Brae. I plan to make it to Bonnie Brae. After that, Sarah and I will be going down to Louisville, Kentucky for Conclave. We'll see you when we get back. Until then, keep tuned to your e-Flashes for the latest in what's happening around your area.

Now, please excuse me so I can see if I can dig up a couple of pictures to accompany this article, before I put it, and then me, to bed.



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# Philadelphia

by John & Jennifer Payne

Ok children, it's time to think about warm weather and picnics. That's right - the Last Last Ever Picnic at the Paynes is on tap. It will be Sunday, June 3 starting (officially) at noonish and running until the food and adult beverages run out. This is a reality this year as the Payne's just purchased a palatial estate near Knoxville Tennessee which may be fully occupied by picnic time next year. If you wish to attend this awesome event, please contact frau Payne at 215.361.7555 to let her know what you plan to bring and how many people will be in your party. Healeys may park on the grass - all others 2 blocks away - that ought to get them out of storage! The usual amount of burgers, hot dogs and cheap booze will be provided by the club. The rest is up to you!

The first outing of the year brought out 11 cars and drivers. Jason Urban set a fast tour starting at Peddlers Village and ending at the Urban's house. The weather started wet but quickly went dry for an enjoyable outing. Jason was kind enough to provide some photos of the gathering.

First time in many years that April has yielded top down weather. Hopefully it will continue. Actually, Philly Region has had two successive meetings with real live driving Healeys in attendance. The April meeting had 18 people showing up with three Healeys (and owners) in attendance. Of course, Dear Leader once again issued the ultimate challenge of



*LtoR Unknown then Holly and Jason Urban-Rallymasters*



*Healeys at Peddler's Vilage*

## Philadelphia Cont...

“free beer” to all who showed up in Healeys.

The agenda basically covered the above mentioned picnic and a reminder that Import Carlisle was coming up May 18 to 20. And, remember, if you are going to please register ahead of time so AH-STC can make use of the free tent again next year. Also, Encounter is coming up in August with the Cokers once again honoring us with their presence. Wednesday night is definitely on the calendar but currently with no fixed event. Rumor has it that the event is really the bar – works for me!

Finally both Healeys are running. The Bugeye has its third head gasket in two years. Hopefully the elective surgery on the head will negate the gap between number 2 and 3 cylinder. Speaking of Healeys, I am hoping to run my new Datsun racer at the Jefferson 500 at Summit Point the weekend after Mother’s Day. I only mention this because there are three big Healeys pre-registered along with about a dozen Sprites of various vintages. I understand from people who have run this in the past, it is a trip back in time when it was understood that a sports car race was a good excuse for a party!

Well now that the Healeys are all running I can get back on less important projects like the four yards of mulch blocking my driveway and the 14 foot high weeds in my yard. So much for pre-emergent weed killer!

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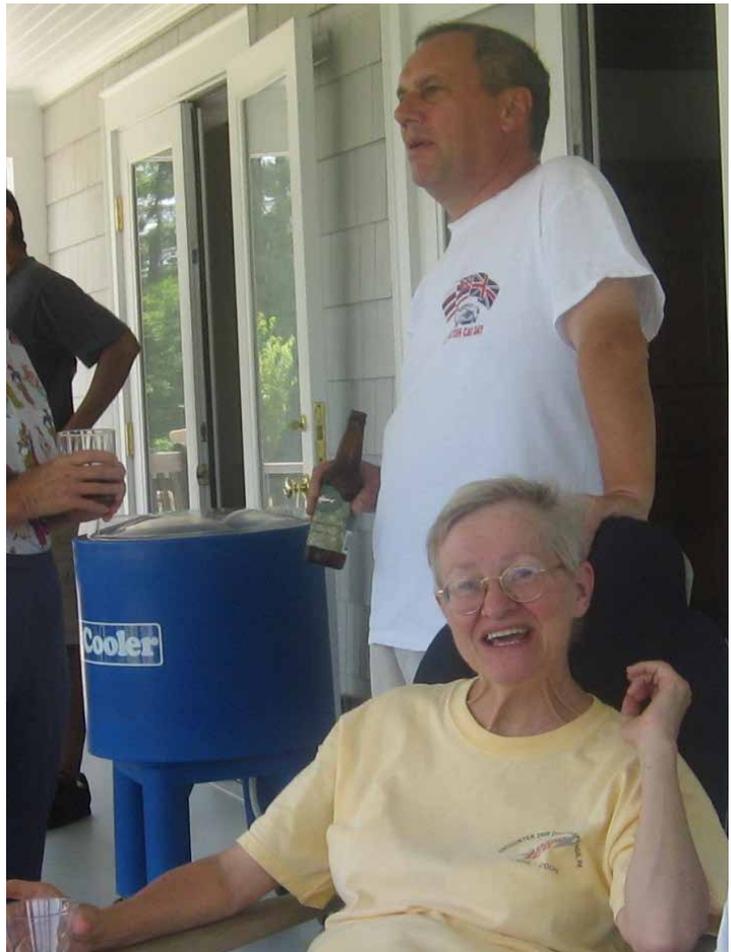
# Brandywine

by Ernie Leser

The annual “Taj Garage” Tech Session at Chuck Ott’s place was held Saturday April 21st. A small, but enthusiastic group attended. In addition to Chuck, Jim Martin, Tom Snyder and his son Tom, Steve Garrett, and myself were present.

The Snyders are restoring Tom’s (Sr.) BN-1 which belonged to his father. So, much interest was shown as to the restoration Chuck is doing on his BJ8. The latter being on Chuck’s lift made inspections of various areas easy to do. Jim Martin and Chuck took this opportunity to re-route part of Chuck’s new wiring harness which leads to the fuel pump. This was followed by an attempt to fine tune the carburetors on Jim’s 1964 BJ8 using my Uni-Syn tool. Removal of both air cleaners took considerable effort on Chucks’ part. Following the tuning procedure in the AH Owner’s Manual resulted in some improvement. A few photos from the tech session are attached.

We then posed Chuck’s square body Sprite in front of Jim’s British flag. With Gina Ott in the driver’s seat and Chuck next to her gave a pretty neat picture. Chuck will pass this on to Ray Donovan for possible use in the club’s advertising postcards.



Joyce and David Stonely



April 21 Tech Session

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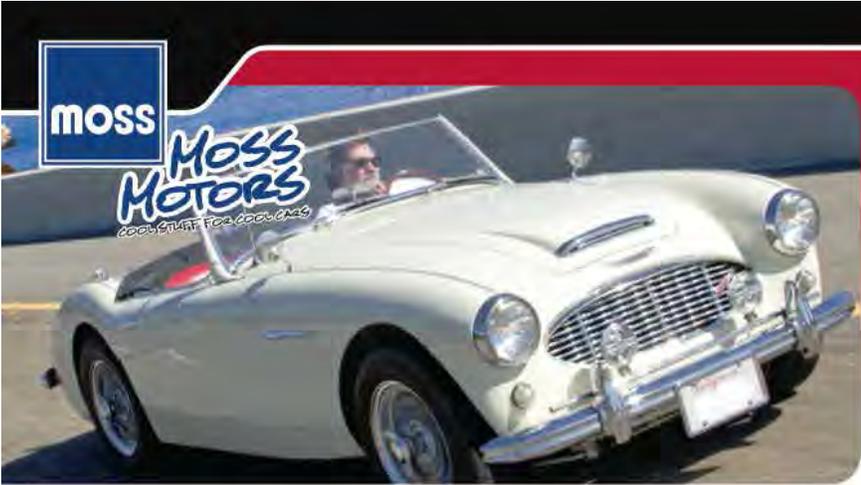
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## Brandywine Cont...

As most of you know by now, David Stonely passed away April 12. He was a long time member of AH-STC as well as the Capitol Area AH club. His great enthusiasm and humor will be missed by all of us that had the privilege of knowing him. A picture of Joyce and David taken at their Rock Hall residence June 9, 2007 during a visit by Brandywine Region is shown on the previous page.

Some of our May and June events are listed below.. Always look out for updates in Chuck's E-Flash issues as the event gets closer.

- May, Sat. 12th, 12 noon. Brandywine Social. The Whip Tavern, 1383 North Chatham Road, West Marlborough, PA. RSVP to Kris (610-558-1334) by May 5th.
- May, Sat. 19th. Carlisle Import Show. Remember to register with AHSTC if you plan to attend.
- June, Sat. 2nd. "Cars of England" show. Westtown, PA.
- June, Sat. 9th. Fun Rally. British Motor Car clubs of Delaware.



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## Encounter 2012...the 35th

By Allen Rosenberg and Steve Jekogian



**P**lans for Encounter 2012 continue to progress and the 60th anniversary of the marque is looking good.

The schedule of events is included below and as always a lot will be packed into the AHSTC event of the year.

The hotel is now named the Hotel Somerset and located in the scenic hills of Somerset/Bridgewater, New Jersey. The Hotel at Somerset is conveniently located off route I-287 and about 15 minutes south of I-78. Please call and reserve your rooms now

and remember the room rate is \$92.00 per night. Also bring your bathing suit as the indoor pool connects to the outdoor pool, really cool!

Hotel Somerset

110 Davidson Avenue Somerset, NJ 08873

(732) 560-0500, ask for "inhouse reservations", then mention "Austin-Healey" to receive our special rate (if problems, call Allen Rosenberg @ 732-742-4642)

As mentioned in the March Flash, Gerry Coker, will join us again to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the introduction of the 100, the car he designed. Gerry and his wife Marion were last at Encounter in 2007, and helped make the event very special.

### THURSDAY AUGUST 9

Encounter officially starts off with the Rallye on Thursday at high noon (12:00) Rallye school at 11:00. The rallye is being started at that time to allow those coming in on Thursday morning to register, get settled and stretch. It will be a great route through the countryside and end at 2:30.

### THURSDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES:

- A dinner tour is being planned, to nearby restaurants ( around 6:00)
- A social gathering in the Hospitality room (8:00PM ) welcoming Gerry and Marion Coker
- Then music and dancing by Moon Dance ( "Our kind of light classic, Pop, Jazz")
- Free beer and munchies,

### DON'T STAY UP TO LATE AS FRIDAY IS FILLED WITH ACTIVITIES

- Gymkhana starts at 9:00
- And last year it was won by North Jersey region! Care to try to take the trophy back to your region?
- Hot wheels race 2:00-3:00 Bring you hot wheels to race
- Funkhana starts at 3:00

## Encounter Cont...

- Free Encounter framed 5X7 picture of your car taken by Mark Goodman 4:00
- BBQ dinner starts at 5:30 -7:00
- The hotly contested Valve Cover race 6:00 -7:30 ( moved earlier at the request of many moms and Grand moms) I think Dad's and grand Dad's too, as they did not want to the kids to see them cry.
- Charity auction and trophies awards 8:00-10:00

### SATURDAY EVENTS

- Popular car show
- Kiddy Khana
- Panoramic photo ( you know the big long one with 100 cars in it )
- Awards dinner

We will also have the traditional events such as arts & crafts, photo competition, assorted tech sessions, Chinese auction/tricky tray, regalia sales, flea market and Hospitality room friendships.

Please remember that the Charity is a very big event for AHSTC and past Encounters have donated thousands of dollars to charities to help out folks less fortunate than us. Healey owners are very talented and have wide interests, and hobbies. So PLEASE consider donating something non-Healey that you make, build, paint, sculpt, sow, knit, etc. As always new parts you can not use are fine also.

If you need to contact me you can always e-mail me at [bigalnj@aol.com](mailto:bigalnj@aol.com), or call me at my office at 908-754-7511. You can also contact my illustrious co-chair Steve Jekogian, at his office at 201-213-8217 [steve.jekogian@merck.com](mailto:steve.jekogian@merck.com). Hope to see all of your registrations very soon.

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# Austin-Healey Sports & Touring Club ENCOUNTER 2012

August 9, 10 and 11, 2012 - Somerset, NJ

(<http://austin-healey-stc.org>)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt.# \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone - Home( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Work( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Is this your 1<sup>st</sup> Encounter? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attending Children's Names & Ages \_\_\_\_\_  
 Region/Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Car(s) You Are Bringing to the Event:

1. Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Instructions

- Complete registration form
- Make check payable to:  
"AHSTC Encounter"
- Enclose both in an envelope and mail to:  
Encounter Registration  
C/O Andy Smith  
1 Cherry Tree Lane  
Chester, NJ 07930  
(908) 879-1740  
E-mail: [encounter07@earthlink.net](mailto:encounter07@earthlink.net)

#### Registration Fee Includes:

- One show car, 2 adults, and children (under 21)  
(Additional cars/adults on a single registration are extra)
- Free access to our hospitality room for the weekend
- Free admission to the wine and cheese reception
- Free flea market space
- Free admission to all tech sessions and driving events

### Hotel Registration

The Plaza at Somerset  
110 Davidson Avenue  
Somerset, NJ 08873

Call the hotel at (732) 580-0500, ask for "in-house reservations", then mention "Austin-Healey" to receive our special rate of \$92 per room per night.

(If problems, call Allan Rosenberg @ 732-742-4642)

### CONCOURSE Information

For information, please contact Georgia Marinco  
201-445-3124 or [gmar2@verizon.net](mailto:gmar2@verizon.net)

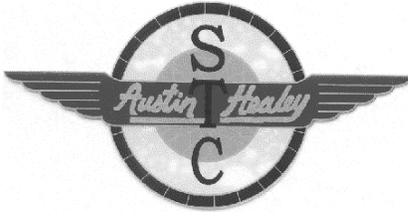
Arrival Date: 8/9 8/10 8/11

Will you need flea market space? Yes / No

Will you need regalia space? Yes / No

### Registration Fees

AHSTC Members  
 \$55.00 if postmarked by June 1, 2012 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$75.00 postmarked after June 1, 2012 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Join AHSTC for 1 year @ \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Members  
 \$70.00 if postmarked by June 1, 2012 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$90.00 postmarked after June 1, 2012 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Extra car(s) @ \$10.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Extra adults (over 21) @ \$15.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday Barbecue @ \$25.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Saturday Banquet - adults @ \$30.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Choice entrée(s):  
 Sliced beef sirloin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grilled fillet of sole \_\_\_\_\_  
 Stuffed portobello mushroom \_\_\_\_\_  
 Saturday Pizza Party  
 Children 12 & under @ \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 "Chinese Auction" Tickets - 7 for \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Concourse Judging/Awards fee @ \$70.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Event T-shirts  
 \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL @ 13.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Remittance (US\$)** \_\_\_\_\_



# The Austin-Healey Sports & Touring Club

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

<http://www.austin-healey-stc.org>

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (mi) (last)

SPOUSE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(or other members at this address)

STREET/PO BOX: \_\_\_\_\_ APT \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4: \_\_\_\_\_

**HEALEY(s) OWNED**

Year Serial Number

_ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _
_ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _
6 7	H B J	8 L	3 4 5	6 7

(Example for a 1967 3000 MK3)

**Member Information**

Home Phone - -  
 Work Phone - -  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Healey Club(s):  
 AHC USA  
 AHC of America  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Region you'd like to join? Harrisburg Lehigh Valley Philadelphia North Jersey Brandywine Long Island

How did you hear about AHSTC? \_\_\_\_\_

When Healey-Related organizations request our mailing list, can we include your name? YES NO

Can we include your address and phone in membership lists distributed to our general membership? YES NO

Membership includes a subscription to the FLASH, our monthly newsletter. We send out our newsletter via email Monthly except for December. Members with email addresses will receive a link to download the Flash each month. If you don't have email, let your Region President know so arrangements can be made for you to obtain the Flash.

Members may place non-commercial classified ads, free of charge. Our membership year runs from April 1 through March 31. Dues are \$30.00 per year, \$15 if joining after September 30. For your convenience you can join for multiple years, just add \$30.00 for each additional year.

If there is a particular need that you think the club can help you with, make some notes below (or include a note) and we'll try to get you in contact with someone who may be able to assist.

If you have questions about AHSTC, contact the Membership Coordinator, Rick Brodeur at 215-536-6912 or [info@austin-healey-stc.org](mailto:info@austin-healey-stc.org)

**ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK - MAIL TO: AHSTC. 309 EAST BROAD ST. QUAKERTOWN PA 18951-1703**

# Summit 2012- Healey's On The Summit

**Jackson, NH July 11-15, 2012**

Mark your calendar, save the dates, fill out and return the Registration Form and then book your room at the Eagle Mountain House Resort. The EMH is one of the five remaining "Grand Dame" historic hotels of the White Mountain Region, which was built in 1879 and is the perfect venue for the 15th anniversary of Summit where it all started in 1997.

The signature event of Summit 2012 will be the BBQ diner and drive up to the top of Mount Washington to view the sunset. The auto road to the top is 7.6 miles long and is paved for all but a short section of hard packed gravel.

Fill out the interactive registration form online at [www.ahca-newengland.com](http://www.ahca-newengland.com) and print or you can print it blank from the newsletter and fill in. After you have returned your Summit Registration form and fee you will receive your registration number and password via email to make your reservation at the Eagle Mountain House. Rates are \$99/night for Wed. and Thurs. and \$135/night for Fri. and Sat. Suite upgrades are available for \$30 per night. All rates are subject to a 9% Room tax. For more info contact Bob Britton, [healeybj7@hotmail.com](mailto:healeybj7@hotmail.com) or call 603-381-3158

A preview of the Highlights of Summit 2012's Schedule and Events

**WEDNESDAY July 11**

- Registration and Chinese Auction Begins in the afternoon.
- Welcome Party and Irish Night at the Shannon Door Pub
- Hospitality and Hot Wheel Races- Practice runs

**THURSDAY July 12**

- Tour to the John Moir Auto Collection – over 60 autos, many Pebble Beach quality, with one for every letter in the alphabet. One of those is a Nash Healey
- Picnic lunch after the Tour
- Golf & Tennis Tournaments and Pool Party to follow in the afternoon at the EMH
- Healeys' on the Summit - BBQ diner and drive to the top of Mt. Washington to watch the sunset. You won't want to miss this signature event (Rain date is Friday)
- Hospitality and Hot Wheel Racing

**FRIDAY July 13**

- Rally around the scenic roads of the White Mountains of NH.
- Ice Cream Social after the rally



## Summit 2012 Cont...

- Valve Cover Racing event at the hotel
- Tech Sessions
- Diner on your own in one of the many great restaurants in the N. Conway area
- Hospitality and Hot Wheel Racing

### SATURDAY July 14

- Driving Event where speed does not win, but rather the consistency between timed runs determines the winner. This event is for all members who enjoy driving their Healey's on an obstacle course but do not want to "race" their cars.
- Car Show in downtown North Conway with the public voting for their favorite Healey
- Cocktail Party, Banquet Diner and Awards Ceremony with special Guest Peter Healey
- Hot Wheel Finals

### SUNDAY July 15

- Pick up your Chinese Auction items and bid farewell to a great weekend.

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# EVENTS



## Austin Healey Club of New England SUMMIT 2012

Eagle Mountain House, Jackson, NH

July 11-15, 2012

[www.acha-newengland.com](http://www.acha-newengland.com)

For Official Use Only
REGISTRATION# _____
Date _____

**REGISTRATION** This is an interactive form that can be filled out online at [www.acha-newengland.com](http://www.acha-newengland.com) and printed or print form and fill in by hand

**NAME** **Spouse/Guest** **Date**  
*Please Print/Type Name as you wish it to appear on ID Badges*

**Street Address**

**City** **State** **Zip**

**Phone Number** **E-Mail Address**  
**Mandatory**

**HEALEY MODEL** **1st Car** **2nd Car** **Other**

**EVENTS YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN** *Please Select from Drop Down Box Yes or No OR Print Yes or No*

<b>Shannon Door Pub Dutch Treat</b>	<b>Wed Evening</b>			<b>Rally</b>	<b>Fri AM</b>		
<b>John Moir Tour</b>	<b>Thurs AM</b>			<b>Valve Cover Racing</b>	<b>Fri PM</b>		
<b>Golf Tournament</b>	<b>Thurs PM \$30 Fee</b> <b>Includes Cart. Club rentals available</b>	<small>Fees to be paid at time of play</small>		<b>Consistency Driving Event</b>	<b>Sat AM</b>		
<b>Tennis Tournament</b>	<b>Thurs PM</b>			<b>Car Show</b>	<b>Sat PM</b>		

**REGALIA - EMBROIDERED POLO SHIRTS AND HATS. T-SHIRTS ARE SILK SCREENED** *Select from Drop Down Box or Print Choices*

<b>Order by June 11, 2012</b>	<b>Men-M</b>	<b>Women-W</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Each Cost</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Embroidered Polo Shirts</b>						\$37	
Yellow, Blue, White or Gray						\$37	
S - XXL						\$37	
<b>Short Sleeve T-Shirts</b>						\$12	
Yellow, Blue, White or Gray						\$12	
S - XXL						\$12	
<b>Fleece Sweatshirt</b>						\$37	
Charcoal, Navy, White, or Gray						\$37	
S - XXL						\$37	
<b>Baseball Hat w/Embroidered Logo</b>	One Size		Tan	One Size		\$18	
<b>REGALIA TOTAL</b>							

**REGISTRATION/EVENT/REGALIA TOTAL FEES**

Mail registration form with check made out to : <b>SUMMIT 2012</b>  <b>Linda Hakala</b> PO Box 279 Hancock, NH 03449 Phone 603-398-4421  EMAIL: <a href="mailto:linda.hakala@smiths-medical.com">linda.hakala@smiths-medical.com</a>	Registration Fee (children under 16 free)	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
	Covers One Car & 2 Adults <b>before 5/15/2012</b>	\$60		
	Covers One Car & 2 Adults <b>after 5/15/2012</b>	\$75		
	Additional Adults	\$20		
	Additional Cars	\$20		
	Box Lunch Thurs Tour	\$10 pp		
	BBQ Thurs Evening	\$22 pp		
		Child 6-12	\$10 pp	
	Mt Washington Sunset Tour Thurs Evening	Adult	\$26 pp	
		Child 6-12	\$13 pp	
	Banquet Dinner Sat Evening	Adult	\$45 pp	
		Child 6-12	\$20 pp	
Regalia Detail above				
<b>You must pre-register &amp; pay for these events by 7/1/2012 - No refunds after this date</b>				

After your Registration Form and Payment are received you will be emailed your official Summit Registration number and a password to make your room reservations at the Eagle Mountain House. Call 1-800-966-5779 or register online at [www.eaglemt.com](http://www.eaglemt.com)

**HEALEYS ON THE GREEN, JULY 28, 2012 – MYSTIC SEAPORT; MYSTIC, CT  
MYSTIC SEAPORT ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC BOAT & CAR SHOW – RUM RUNNERS RENDEZVOUS**

It's on! We have had over two dozen people so far express interest in putting Healeys on the Green at Mystic Seaport again this summer.

We'll form up across the street from the Seaport at 10:30 am (I'll send all registrants directions.) and drive onto the grounds in a parade at 11:00 am. We got Healeys into a lot of home videos last year that way!

We'll ask people to have one person by each car for the duration of the show which will end at 2:00 pm. You can then explore the Seaport for as long as you like and leave when you wish. The cars will be judged by the public for popularity with no distinction by model -- although we will have those great posters Adam Nolde made last year showing the model features. The most popular Healey takes home a plaque.

The entry fee is \$20 per car – admits two people (a \$48 value). Make checks payable to Mystic Seaport, but mail to George Greider; 956 Brookdale Drive; Boynton Beach, FL 33435.

Saturday evening from 7:00-10:30 will be the Seaport Museum's Rum Runners Rendezvous. This is a Caribbean-themed night of food, drink, dancing and signature rum cocktails (tropical attire encouraged!). Steel drums will be played by Pan Man Jose and dancing music will be provided by the Key West Trio. Tickets are \$75 per person and must be purchased in advance by calling (860) 572-5376 or via email at [advancement@mysticseaport.org](mailto:advancement@mysticseaport.org). Dinner and drinks are included.

There are several hotels in the area and the Seaport has offered to let anyone who wishes to attend the Rum Runners Rendezvous leave his or her car on their secured and patrolled grounds overnight with us arranging a shuttle bus to the hotel. This would work best if we all stayed in the same hotel (and if there are enough we might get a break on room rates). Please indicate with your check if you want to take advantage of the Designated Shuttle Bus (DSB) option and I will be in touch about hotel choices. I will need to have your registration check by June 27, 2012 if you are interested in the group rate hotel/DSB option.

Several people would like to graze a brunch on Sunday. Please let me know with your registration check if you would like to do that so we can make reservations.

[ggreider@gmail.com](mailto:ggreider@gmail.com) George M Greider



Seaport President Steve Smith in Ted Stanton's 100-4. We gave him a year to get his own Healey.

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Lansdale, PA 19446

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# Events Calendar

## MAY

- May 5 - Lewes British Motorcar Show. Lewes, DE. At Lewes Historical Complex. 11 AM to 3 PM. For more info call the Lewes Chamber of Commerce @ 302.645.8073
- May 6 – MGs of Baltimore “Get the Dust Off” Rallye. Info & form
- May 6 - The First Annual Costco Custom/Classic Car Concours, 3-7PM, All proceeds benefit the Children’s Miracle Network, cost for car or motorcycle: \$20. Spectator admission by donation. Food, vendors, music, fun, prizes. 1875 Hempstead Road, Lancaster, PA 17601 (717)358-1203, Ask for Sharee
- May 15 – AHSTC Harrisburg Region Monthly Meeting, 6:30 PM, Joke night – must tell a joke or get fined \$1.00. Best joke as determined by audience applause get a prize. Jokes have to be suitable for grandmother, mothers and children of all ages.
- May 17-20 - Jefferson 500 Vintage Races - Summit Point, WV, [http://www.vrgonline.org/events/jefferson/2012/jeff500\\_2012\\_flier.jpg](http://www.vrgonline.org/events/jefferson/2012/jeff500_2012_flier.jpg)
- May 18-20 - Carlisle Import & Kit Nationals, Carlisle, PA. For more information and directions Click [here](#)
- May 20 - Lanco Club Meeting, 3:00 PM, Mc Cleary’s Irish Pub, 130 West Front St, Marietta, PA 17547. Tech session at 1 PM. For directions Click [here](#)
- May 26 – Knights of Columbus ‘Cruise for a Knight’ car show, York, PA [http://www.kofc6353.org/events/2012\\_Cruise.pdf](http://www.kofc6353.org/events/2012_Cruise.pdf)
- May 26 – England vs. Italy in the battle for LeMans Demo Day at the Simeone Museum, 1927 Bentley Speed Model, 1930 Bentley 4.5 L Supercharged, 1933 Alfa Romeo 8C 2300 Le Mans
- May 26 - June 3 - British Car Week. Drive your car everywhere!!! For more information Click [here](#) to go to the British Car Week site and check on the events around the country.
- May 28 - America in International Racing Before the War Demo Day at Simeone 1921 Duesenburg, 1930 duPont Le Mans, 1929 Stutz Supercharged Le Mans

## JUNE

- June 1 - Cruise In at the AACA Museum, Join the Antique Automobile Club of America Hershey Region and the AACA Museum for a fun evening of cars as we host a “Cruise IN” All vehicles of any year are welcome to be on display - no registration fee will be charged. Food vendors will be on hand with lots of tailgating options and the Museum will be open from 5:00 – 9:00 PM with a special admission price of just \$5 per person from 5-9 PM
- June 2 – “Cars and Motorcycles of England”, Oakbourne Mansion, Westtown, PA. Sponsored by Delaware Valley Triumphs, Ltd and Delaware Valley Jaguar Club. <http://www.bccnepa.com/britcarcalendar.html#/?i=1>

## *Events Calendar Cont...*

- June 3 - The Original British Car Day, Lilypons Water Garden, Adamstown, MD. 35th Anniversary Meet sponsored by the Chesapeake Chapter of the New England MG T Register. For more information and registration [http://www.chesapeakechaptermgclub.com/OBCD\\_main.htm](http://www.chesapeakechaptermgclub.com/OBCD_main.htm)
- June 3 - "Seventeenth Red Mill British Car Day" Sponsored by the M.G. Drivers Club of North America to benefit the Red Mill Museum Village 56 Main Street Clinton, NJ. Limited to 100 pre-registered British vehicles due to the size of the show grounds. For more information and registration <http://www.mgdriversclub.com/upcoming/redmill12.html>
- June 6-10 – North American MGB Register National Meet, 50th anniversary of the MGB, Dillard, Georgia ([click here](#))
- June 8-10 - The Elegance and Grand Ascent At Hershey, The Elegance At Hershey will bring the finest of race cars and show quality collector cars together for a weekend celebrating the automobile.
- June 9 – AHSTC Harrisburg Region Spring Tour – Miller's Auto Storage
- June 9 – "A Touch of England" British Motorcar & Motorcycle Gathering and show will be held on the beautiful, tree-shaded lawns of The Hermitage in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ. Please pre-register early, as there is a strict space limitation of 150 vehicles for this event (and you will save \$5.00 on your registration fee). New Jersey Triumph Association, [http://www.njtriumphs.org/uploads/TOE\\_Flyer\\_Final\\_Version\\_2\\_2\\_12.pdf](http://www.njtriumphs.org/uploads/TOE_Flyer_Final_Version_2_2_12.pdf)
- June 10 – Lanco MG Club Drive & Meeting, Mystery Tour. More Later!!
- June 10 – Annual British Motorcar Gathering – Hellertown, PA. Annual all-British car show held at a wooded park just south of Allentown. Sponsored by the Keystone Region MG Club. For more information [Click here](#)
- June 13 – SVVSCC Volvo (Mack Truck) Powertrain Tour Run, tour the engine/transmission assembly plant outside of Hagerstown, Maryland. Must know if you are going before May 30, Contact: Carol Heide or Van Webster
- June ?? - Brits By the Bay – Carroll County Farm Museum, MD, TRAC [http://www.tracltd.org/BBTB/BBTB11/BBTB\\_2011\\_Flyer\\_Ver2.pdf](http://www.tracltd.org/BBTB/BBTB11/BBTB_2011_Flyer_Ver2.pdf)
- June 17-22 – AHCA Conclave 2012 in Louisville KY, <http://www.2012conclave.com>
- June 19 – AHSTC Harrisburg Region Monthly Meeting, 6:30 PM at the Soda Jerk in Hummelstown
- June 23 - 17th Annual AACA Museum Car Show & Flea Market, Registration at 8:00 AM and runs until 3:00 PM. Open to all vehicles including antiques, classics, street rods, trucks, buses, motorcycles and sports cars.
- June 23 – Viva la France, French cars at LeMans Demo Day at the Simeone Museum, 1938 Peugeot Darl'mat, 1936 Delahaye 135S, 1937 Bugatti 57G "Tank"
- June 24 - Concours d'Elegance of the Eastern U.S. Skytop Lodge, Route 390, Skytop, Pa.
- June 30 - Cars in the Water Gap Oak Street and Waring Drive, Delaware Water Gap, Pa.

# The Hunt for Healey History: Part 2

## *The mystery surrounding the red 1964 Sebring Sprite Prototype*

by Baird Foster, Contributing Editor

...Continued from April Flash

Could it possibly be 770 KNX?

Meanwhile, I sent photos of the red Sprite and information about the car to Ian Grainger in England. Ian, a Sprite enthusiast, races Healeys in the UK. He responded that “the car you quote with that engine number and chassis number is indeed the very car pictured in Chevalier’s book [Les Healey au Mans 1949-1970] and had registration number 770 KNX... This car was the last ¼ elliptic springs competition car and was registered to the Donald Healey Motor Company on 11th March 1964 and was specifically constructed for the 1964 Le Mans 24 Hour Race. The car was blue in the race and had a 1098 cc engine.” Grainger continues, “Its license expired on 30th September, 1964 after which it was restored by the Healeys and sold to the United States.”

This information did not make sense to me. These cars, the red Sprite and the blue 770 KNX, are very close in appearance but not identical. The differences are in the front oil cooler on 770 KNX and the cut line of the bonnet (hood) below the windscreen and where the bonnet met the front cutline of the doors. The information from Ian was sent to the Warwickshire County Record Office asking for details on registration 770 KNX.

Photos of the red Sprite’s engine compartment prompted Ian to comment: “...good to see the original engine and ancillary equipment still in place.” Remember that this red Sprite is now in the identical condition in which it left the DHMC Works in June, 1964, so Ian’s observations were well-founded.

Responding to my inquiry to the Warwickshire County (England) Record Office about registration number 770 KNX, the office provided information including a ledger page showing 770 KNX registered to “Donald Healey, Ltd. Warwick”; Type and Colour: “Austin-Healey Sprite”; Weight: “1098 cc”; Date of Registration: “11-3-64” (11 March 1964). No color was indicated.

Enter Registration Number 776 KNX

On the same ledger page were registration numbers 769 KNX through 776 KNX, inclusive, which were all registered to Donald Healey, Ltd.—some Sprites and some 3000 MKIIIs. Of major importance, as we’ll soon see, was the one number at the bottom of the old ledger page: 776 KNX; Austin-Healey Sprite; 1098 cc; on 11-3-64 (11 March 1964).

The Record Office also sent a copy of a “Surrender Card” for 770 KNX. It said: “Class: Private; Make: Austin-Healey; Type of Body: Sports Sprite; Colour: Blue; cc: 1098 cc; Engine No. XSP 2173-2; Date of



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## *Hunt for Healey History Cont...*

Original Registration: 11 March 1964; Date of Expiry of Last License: 30 Sept 1964; Name and Address of last Owner: Donald Healey Motor Co Ltd, Warwick.”

Note that the engine number of the red Sprite is the same as the one noted for the blue “Sports Sprite,” registration number 770 KNX. My search became more complex!

Meanwhile, David Matthews, a former employee of the DHMC, had viewed photos of the red Sprite along with what information was then available about the car.

Concerning the possibility of the subject red Sprite’s being raced at the 1964 Le Mans race as 770 KNX, David notes: “It is amazing that 2 days after Le Mans in 1964, [car] No. 53 770 KNX in light metallic blue?? Was already on its way to USA?” David cites the Le Mans results dated 22 June 1964: Car No. 53; Austin-Healey Sebring Sprite; driver Baker/Bradley; entered by Donald Healey Motor Company; results 24th overall. He continues, “Normally they would be in red (for Le Mans)... The car in my opinion is dead right down to the alloy Healey wheels but the colour change from blue to red is difficult to nail down.” My sentiments exactly!

Matthews also recalls that “this car was attending the Encounter Conclave at Harrisburg USA in 1987, my first visit to the US...” David Matthews has a very good memory, as the red Sprite did put in a brief appearance at the AHSTC/AHCA event in 1987.

Identity still a mystery

At this point, it seemed that the red Sprite may have raced at Sebring in 1964, but no one could recall a red Sprite being there. Also, the red car may have been Sprite 770 KNX at the 1964 Le Mans race; however, how could any car compete at Le Mans on the 21st, return to the works, be refitted, and ship out on the 24th of June?

The “Eureka!” moment



Existing information and photos of the red car were also emailed to Hans van de Kerkhof, the driving force of the forthcoming Healey Museum in the Netherlands (<http://www.healeymuseum.nl/>). Hans responded by telling me that his museum archivist, Ivo Visser, would be researching the information and forward to me any news.

Ivo’s email arrived on 22 August 2011 and stated: “In my private collection I always kept separate the attached photo of 776 KNX at Sebring [1964] of which I hoped to find

*The “Eureka!” photo showing the red Sprite, car number 67, off track with disassembled rear axle at Sebring, 1964.*

## *Hunt for Healey History Cont...*

out more history on as well to locate the Sprite in the near future.”

There, on the computer screen in brilliant color, was a photo of a RED Sebring Sprite, race number 67, registration number 776 KNX! To add to my glee, the photo showed both rear wheels off the car, which would indicate a problem, perhaps, with the rear axle. Finally, here was positive proof that the red Sprite did, in fact, compete at the 12-Hour Race at Sebring in 1964 with registration number 776 KNX.

The “Eureka!” photo showing the red Sprite, car number 67, off track with disassembled rear axle at Sebring, 1964.

Ivo, who has been collecting Healey memorabilia, magazines, photos, etc. from all the Works and special Healeys since he was 15 years of age, lives in the Netherlands. His vast store of information has been accumulating for over 20 years. Ivo also drew the same conclusions that I had reached. That 776 KNX (red) and 770 KNX (blue) were both returned to the Warwick Works after Sebring 1964; 776 KNX for repair and research on the rear axle failure after only 9 laps at Sebring, and 770 KNX for preparation for the forthcoming Le Mans race in June, 1964.

Ivo also suggests that as 776 KNX was entered in the GT 1.3 class (Grand Touring, under 1.3 liters) at Sebring that it was probably entered with “standard trim.” Recall that the other blue Sprite 770 KNX competed in the P 3.0 class (Prototype, under 3 liters) and one of the drivers, Clive Baker, said there was no interior trim on this blue car.

Seeking confirmation that the photo was taken at the 1964 Sebring race, Ivo stated, “For 100% I can confirm that the photo of the red 776 KNX is at the 12hr of Sebring in 1964.” He generously cited a video of the race in which the red Sprite could be seen briefly as it sat parked off the track. Also, the two race cars seen on track were identified as participants in this 1964 race.

“Eureka!” moment #2

A few days after seeing Ivo’s mystery-solving photo, I received two more color photos from John Wright,



*The three DHMC entries at Sebring, 1964. The 770 KNX Sprite is at left; the red Sprite, 776 KNX, at the right. (John Wright Collection)*



*1964 Sebring Sprite Trackside at Sebring, 1964; BMC mechanics*

## Hunt for Healey History Cont...

from nearby Upper Black Eddy, PA. John, a collector of vintage cars and most accurate when it comes to any race car's history, was familiar with the red Sprite and searched through his photo collection. The photos he provided confirmed that this red Sprite was at Sebring in 1964. One photo showed the three DHMC entries lined up, probably prior to the race. The other was a close-up of two mechanics standing by the red Sprite with its bonnet (hood) raised.

A careful study of all three photos, along with a comparison to the red Sprite, revealed the following details:

- The photo at the track reveals a narrow white stripe down the center of the car. Careful inspection of Kurt's Sprite showed evidence of the stripe's edges which had been removed and/or painted over before the car was shipped to the US.
- The photo with the mechanics reveals the curve of the bonnet (hood) at the back edge. The red car has a curve around the windscreen wiper posts while photos of all other racing Sebring or Le Mans Sprites had a straight line at the windscreen's base.
- The tire in the photo shows a green dot; this was noted in the DHMC spec sheets which accompanied the red Sprite.
- The engine bay seen in the photo matches the actual car, as does the red paint line up the front of the silver sheet metal behind the front wheel.

- Also, the three cars lined up were the DHMC entrants (as per the race numbers) of the 1964 Sebring 12 Hour Race.

There is now conclusive evidence that Kurt Ritthaler's red Sebring Sprite coupe did participate in the 12 Hour Race at Sebring, 1964—if only for nine laps!

### 776 KNX Info from Warwickshire

A new inquiry to the Warwickshire Record Office was made seeking information about 776 KNX. The Record Office returned information in the form of a "Surrender Card." It noted that 776 KNX had "Colour: Red"; "Engine No. XSP-2173-2"; and "Chassis or Frame no. HAN7/11563-H-2." Also noted were the original registration date of "11th Mar. 1964" and "Expiry of Last License 31st Mar. 1964 (Refund)." Those original register and expiry dates would allow for the red Sprite to be registered 776 KNX for the 1964 Sebring race. Upon return to the UK, and knowing of the impending sale, DHMC got a refund of their registration fee.

Using this chassis number, I again asked the BMIHT for any information on this chassis as it appeared to be a production number for a "stock" Sprite.

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## *Hunt for Healey History Cont...*

BMIHT's Derek Tew responded by noting, "I have located the car in the production records, it is one of five, however the date is November/December 1961, and the chassis Prefix [should have been] HAN-6, not HAN-7, according to the Vehicle Register. The following notes were taken from both the Build Ledger and Register (there is no Build Card): Right Hand Drive North American, Sebring Development..."

Based on this BMIHT information, it appears that this red Sprite began life in late 1961 as a stock production chassis and later modified by the DHMC to become a Works Sebring Sprite Prototype coupe. The earlier Sprites (HAN-5, HAN-6, HAN-7) had the quarter-elliptic rear springs. The red Sprite has semi-elliptic springs—one of the many modifications by the Works to transform the stock chassis into a proper prototype race car for Sebring and other race venues. The Works probably designated a new chassis number, HAN8-64-R-2, following the modifications.

### Sebring 1964 Driver's Recollections

Searching for additional information about Al Pease, one of the co-drivers at Sebring, 1964, I came upon a website [www.britishracecar.com](http://www.britishracecar.com) and contacted Curtis Jacobson from Colorado, who directed me to Mike Adams of Saskatchewan, Canada; both know Al Pease, who now resides in Tennessee. (See sidebar "The Drivers.") I mailed recent photos of the red Sprite along with photos of the car at Sebring in 1964 to Al and arranged a follow-up phone interview.

With remarkable recall, Al said that the red Sprite's interior did not have the interior of the car as it now exists. One of his photos shows the sparse, if any, interior panels in 1964 at Sebring. Al also remembered that there was only the one seat, and it was a very plain, "typical racing seat." He did not recall an odometer, only a tachometer. (The odometer now in the car reads 796 miles.) As for carpet, "There was none."

Al noted that as he was to do most of the driving during the 12 hour race, he had a lot of practice in the car. "It was a beautiful little car; I was quite impressed with it," he remembered. He continued by commenting that the Sprite "was beautifully styled; it was great to drive...the finish and details were terrific."

As for the demise of the Sprite on the ninth lap at Sebring as he was driving, he vividly recollects, "There was a terrible noise at the back and the car ground to a halt very quickly." As the rules allowed only the driver to work on the car, one of the Hambro mechanics came out to direct Al with repairs, but the rear axle was irreparably damaged.

Pease and Mims had been selected to drive the Sprite, as he was a BMC driver at the time, and the late Donna Mae Mims was an SCCA Class Champion in a Sprite. Al said that Donna often amused the crew with her little



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## *Hunt for Healey History Cont...*

dyed-pink dog that she carried everywhere. (See sidebar, “The Drivers.”)

Al Pease sent several of his black and white photos of the Sprite at Sebring which further established its identity. After seeing the recent pictures of the red Sprite, he said that “an unchanged car such as this never happens; most race cars were brutalized...”

### The Search Ends

After many months of research and assistance from a number of generous enthusiasts, my search for the identity of the red Sprite was over. Although this car had but a brief racing life at Sebring in 1964, it was, in fact, one of the very few prototype Sprites prepared by the Donald Healey Motor Company to compete at Sebring.



*Sprite on display at the New Hope (Pennsylvania) Auto Show, 1964, just after the car arrived in America. (Kurt Ritthaler) image*

Following the 1964 Sebring race, the Works repaired the car and fitted it as a touring coupe and shipped it to America for its new owner, Stephen Pitcairn. Pitcairn added seat belts, which were then required for racing, and competed in perhaps two hill climb competitions. The identity of these events and the results are not known. Then in 1985, Pitcairn’s friend Kurt Ritthaler became the second owner, or “caretaker,” of this historic vehicle; and he has shown the car to the public only four times: at the New Hope (Pennsylvania) Auto Show in 1964, at Encounter 1986, briefly in 1987, and finally in 2010. Kurt believes that because the car has not been exposed to the public that it has simply been forgotten, and, as some have claimed, “lost.”

### Owner recalls Encounter 1986

Kurt, second owner of the red Sprite, recalls taking his race car to the AHSTC Encounter in 1986. The event was held in Trevoise, Pennsylvania and featured two very important guests, Donald M. Healey, CBE and Gerry Coker, the stylist/designer of the original Healey Hundred. With Kurt’s Sebring Sprite on display, DMH and Gerry met with Kurt and spoke about this car and the Works cars in general. Kurt vividly remembers that Donald Healey said that “These cars were throwaway cars” intended for only a few race entries. Healey also said that no two of these cars were alike.

This beautiful, unmolested 1964 Sebring Sprite Prototype is not lost and it still resides in the hands of a very responsible “caretaker.” Kurt notes that while the car is not for sale (as he says, “I only buy, I don’t sell”), he is pleased that its story is now known and its chapter in Healey History is recognized.

# Hunt for Healey History Cont...

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(L to R) Gerry Coker, Donald Healey, and Kurt Ritthaler at Encounter, 1986; Kurt is the current owner of the red Sprite. (Kurt Ritthaler) image



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