

# The *FLASH*

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AUSTIN HEALEY SPORTS & TOURING CLUB



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*Main Cover Photo: Long Island's line up at Oak Beach;*

*Smaller Cover Photos: Drive Away Cancer's "Grace" Visits Joe Curto from Long Island Region; Brandywine's July outing to Boondocks;*



# North Jersey

by George Crombie

**E**ncounter #35: “Sixty in Somerset” should be what it’s all about. Enough said.

Well, okay; maybe just a few more words. If you are going, you should at least be registered by now, and you should probably even be there by now. Maybe even back from the AHSTC’s premier annual event, since it begins on Thursday, August 9th and runs through Saturday the 11th, and The Flash is usually sent out on the 10th of each month, or thereabouts.

Several members of the North Jersey Region met up at the Bamboo Grill in Basking Ridge to go over the semi-final numbers and plans a couple of weeks ago, on July 11th. Those attending included the usual suspects: Steve Jekogian, Richard Ippoliti, Ralph Scarfogliero, Steve Feld, Paul Parfrey (LI), Frank Dapiran, Allen & Ginny Rosenberg, Ian & Sue Kessen, Bob Pense, Andy & Martha Smith, Gene & Louise Manning, and George Crombie. I think I got everybody. It seemed that everything was under control, with the exception of having the racetrack in hand for the Valve Cover Races. Now, I wonder just who the heck was responsible for that little item? Um, that would be me. I assured the committee that said track would be in hand within ten days. The following Wednesday, Richard Ippoliti and I went out to Pennsylvania in Richard’s new Toyota pickup to pick up (a good reason to use a pickup, don’t you agree?) the track from John Davies. Said track has now displaced my wife’s car from her side of the garage “for just a few more days, dear.” Now that that has been accomplished, we are ready to hit the road to Encounter.

The North Jersey folks will be getting together one final time before The Big Event to have a sort-of dry run. I really think that it is more an excuse to get out and have dinner with a bunch friends than to have a meeting. After all, at this stage of the game, it’s either going to happen, or it’s not. Again, enough said. This final meeting will be held on Tuesday night, July 31st at the Hotel Somerset, 110 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, NJ. The crowd should be arriving just before 7:00 PM so we can order and grab something to eat before we begin making a bunch of noise. Join us.

SEE YOU AT ENCOUNTER 2012 “SIXTY IN SOMERSET” AUG 9TH THRU 11TH

Upcoming events for the North Jersey Region include:

- July 31st Final Encounter planning meeting @ Hotel Somerset, Somerset, NJ 7:00 PM
- August 9th – 11th ENCOUNTER #35
- August 18th Post-Encounter pool party @ Andy & Martha Smith’s in Chester, NJ

As always, keep checking your e-Flashes from Ian for the latest happenings.

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# Harrisburg

by Don Hoffer

**W**ith no meeting or events to cover you might think we've become dormant. Not so exhaust breath – as I write this tome, Healeys sequestered in garages all over the Region are being prepared for Encounter. Check oil, radiator, brake reservoir, top off carburetors, check air pressure, extract trash from interior, wash and polish external and then to figure out how to pack all that other stuff you manage to cram into your beauty, like in years past. With all that behind you, by the time you read this, I sure hope it worked out well for you, besides the annual ritual wouldn't be the same without you. Every year someone shows up with some hopeless rust infested Healey left to gather dust for a couple of decades and fulfill our pledge to preserve the Marque. I hope mine made it to Encounter and passed muster. Of course a great turmoil has erupted over "old one arm" here doing the driving. My saw bones wants two more weeks in sling, two off, and another x-ray before declaring me healed – big help he is! My keeper who doesn't want to drive, doesn't want me to drive either – therein lies my latest dilemma. If you see me in Somerset, then some chicanery must have been employed.



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# Brandywine

by Ernie Leser

**D**ue to Delaware City Days occurring on Saturday, July 21, our venue was changed at the last minute. To avoid the crowds at “DCD”, we choose to have crabs at one of our favorite places, the Boondocks restaurant in Smyrna, Delaware.

Jim Martin arranged the tour which started in Hockessin, Delaware and proceeded into Pennsylvania and crossed the C&D canal at Chesapeake City, Maryland. This initial group consisted of Jim Martin, Kris and Steve Garrett, Diane and Tom Zalewski, and Joan and myself. Chuck Ott joined us at the C&D canal museum outside of Chesapeake City. We motored along the south side of the canal heading east to rt.9, then south on rt.9 to the Boondocks. This latter stretch of rt.9 goes along the Delaware river through several marshy areas. Depending on the tide, parts of the road flood. We did encounter some high water necessitating a very slow passage in the center of the road through the water with the Healeys. The Ehret group (Ann, Dave, Brian and Danielle), along with Katie and Tom Coletti, encountered higher water levels a bit later. All made it to the Boondocks where we enjoyed crabs and cold brew. It should be pointed out that everyone came in a Healey, seven cars in all! No mechanical problems were encountered and it turned out to be a very enjoyable outing in spite of the last minute change in destination. Even the rain held up except for a slight drizzle for part of the trip back home.

Congratulations to Dave on his recent retirement, and best wishes to Katie and Tom as new home owners in the Avondale, Pa. area. Time seems to go by at a faster pace the older we get.

Upcoming events for the next three months are shown below. Always check the E-Flash for further details and any changes as the event gets closer.



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# Brandywine Cont...



- August 9-11. ENCOUNTER 2012, Somerset, N.J.
- Sept., Saturday 8th. Crab Crawl and Feast. The Philip's place, St.Michaels, Md.
- Sept., Saturday 15th. British Car Club of Delaware show, Delaware City, De.
- Sept., Sunday 16th. Hagley Car Show, Greenville, De.
- Sept., Saturday 29th. Classic and Exotic Car Show, Greenville, De.
- October, Sunday 7th, 1 pm. Brandywine Region Picnic. The Leser residence, Elkton, Md. RSVP to Joan by the 4th (410-398-7308).

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# Long Island

by Paul Parfrey

## LI REGION STORMS OAK BEACH

D DAY H HOUR WAS 7/12/12, 1930 HOURS



*Beach Run line-up of cars in Bellmore*



*Repairs at Oak Beach*

This year's Sunset Cruise/Beach Tour was one of the best attended with minimal beating of the bushes by me. It was a perfect summer afternoon and evening, a short respite from the heat and humidity. If I counted correctly, we had 11 vehicles, 7 of which were Healeys. Surprisingly, we had more cars meeting in Bellmore for the ride past Jones Beach onto the Ocean Parkway than we had meeting at Oak Beach. Less surprising, but nonetheless unusual for this event, was the fact that someone had car trouble. Tony DiFrancesca's exhaust hangers gave way and a little undercar fireworks display was ended by some wire from Bob Squillari. The LI Region has been holding this event each July for longer than anyone can remember; 15 years maybe? For a time it was a very large affair with participants from all LI British clubs and the Volvo Club, ending up at a quaint seafood restaurant. Keeping it low-key and small is easier for yours truly. The last multi-marque event was so large the restaurant couldn't accommodate everyone, including my daughters. The LI Triumph Association, the LI Mini Club, and the Morgan Club have each been holding similar events for sometime now. Our attendees this year were Chris and Stacey Aries, Lenny and Rachelle Berkowitz, Tony and Kathy DiFrancesca, Frank Filangeri, Arthur and Ruth Lange, Bob and Barbara Maichin, Mike and Carol Neumar, Mary Ann Sekelsky and Tedd Krummeck, Bob and Diane Squillari, Steve Tjepkema, and Susan and myself. Welcome to Chris and Stacey! Hope we all see more of them in the future.



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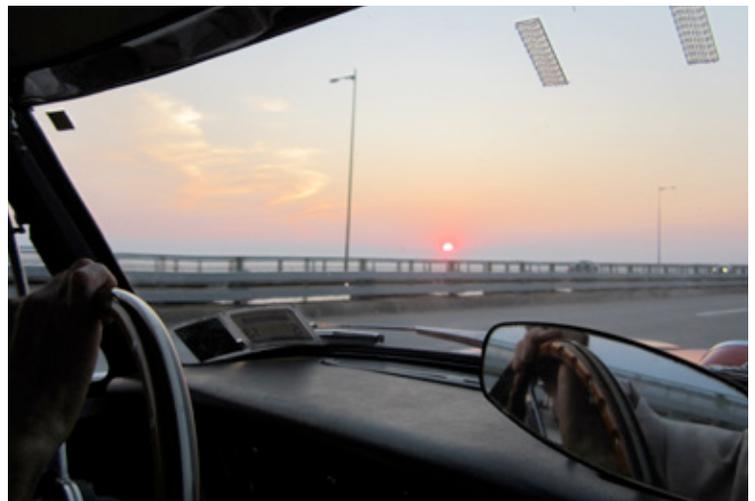
## Long Island Cont...

### “GRACE”, THE DRIVE AWAY CANCER 100, VISITS COLLEGE POINT

A call to Joe Curto this morning (July 25th), brought news that Grace, the Drive Away Cancer 100, was visiting with driver John Nikas, accompanied by George Crombie’s daughter, Sarah. Joe provided 100M carburetors for this project, and did a fan belt and valve adjustment today. By now you should have heard something about this 1953 100. Here is a brief history. Grace is owned by Mike Newsome. John’s original idea was to restore the car to cheer up Mike who was fighting cancer at the time. But things got out of hand in a good way. John decided to get the car running and to drive this unrestored 100 on a cross-country trip to honor a number of cancer victims and cancer survivors that he knew. In eight days, with a lot of help from his friends, the car was ready to go. Mike asked to sign the car before it left. As it traveled its first 5800 miles cross-country, signatures and names piled up. People that signed told John their stories about themselves and friends and loved ones. As of April, the car had 6500 names on it; I added three more today. It goes without saying that John experienced a lot of breakdowns and Healey problems that many folks along the way helped him to overcome. The car caught fire twice. The car actually won the inaugural Mille Miglia of North America Tribute with John at the wheel, beating Ferraris, Maseratis, and other more exotic and less pyrotechnic entries. The car is now on a 50,000 mile/50 state tour of the US. How long could you drive your Healey before you had had enough? Hopefully, John and Grace will make it to Encounter!



*Oak Beach Line-Up*



*Leaving Fire Island at sunset*



**Matt Bakes**

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# Philadelphia

by Hero Racer

**S**orry dear readers for missing last month's edition. We spent 10 days moving into our new digs near Oak Ridge outside of Knoxville which was when the FLASH went to publication. Maintaining 2 houses is not generally recommended without serving staff! Anyway, the 1 year moving party has begun and I am pleased to say there is actually furniture in the hacienda. While I was down there I accompanied my brother-in-law, who is also a racer, to Roebing Road which is near Savannah, Georgia. Back when I raced there the supplemental warned drivers who ran off course at turn 1 not to leave the car until the emergency crew arrived due to very large rattlesnakes. And, trust me, that will slow down your entrance to the corner! Thirty two years later, if you lose it at that spot, you want to avoid the nicely manicured lawn on the \$500k house for fear of being shot! Times have changed. Anyway, in true southern hospitality we were treated to 113 degree temperatures and that was in the shade. Somehow or other, my brother-in-law managed to keep himself and the car together for high finishes.

Twenty-four members made it to the picnic and two were so anxious to attend that they made it a day early! No names of course. The weather was good and we had ample amounts of food and spirits. Several Healeys were uncovered and exercised. Could be the good weather is finally here. Actually, it was a fairly warm and humid day. Most of the folks spent the time in the shaded side yard with a large box fan supplying the "cool". Much of the conversation revolved around the upcoming trip to Conclave at Louisville and the Dunckleys, Donovans, Wogloms, Fosters and John Heffron will be representing the Philly Region and AHSTC.

Finally got the Sprite up and running. Seems that it is working on only 1 carb though. Even more amazing is that it runs well on only one. The adventures with the race car continue. We now have fuel flowing liberally to the carb but no spark to the engine. It seems there was a wire that provided spark attached somewhere in the stock wiring harness but it simply fell off. On examining the harness it does not appear to have been permanently attached anywhere. Did find two "hot" wires that were kind of rolled up on the other side of the car. Never a good sign. Had this happen with the racing Bugeye after I bought it too. It seems that racers are notorious for simply making do. The execution of the wiring harness has all the hallmarks of a third grade creative art project! Every man needs a #&%\$^ hobby!

There was no meeting in June as most of the region was in Louisville for Conclave. According to Dear Leader AHSTC, and more specifically, Philly region claimed a major supply of the awards hardware from the meet. According to the attendees, there was a lot of driving as most of the events were away from the event headquarters. The Dunckleys once again drove the entire distance to Louisville and back. Lois did bag a personal bottle of Makers Mark - some fine Kentucky hooch. However, she was not sharing. Our award winners include:

Gymkhana - Paul Woglom, Ray Donovan, Nick Ferrant

Funkhana - Paul Woglom & Sandy Nairn

Rally - Ray & Charlene Donovan

## Philadelphia Cont...

Popular car -Baird Foster, John Heffron & Sandy Nairn, Ray & Lois Dunckley

Pinewood Derby - Lois Dunckley, Charlene Donovan, Ray Dunckley

Arts & Crafts - George Crombie's daughter

The July meeting did produce attendees – 12 of them. The Wogloms just returned from the south Pacific from a scuba diving trip on the sunken Japanese fleet at Truk Island. Apparently this is quite a spectacular site. Paul usually takes a lot of photos. We are all anxious to see what they found. You can pick things up but you are not permitted to collect souvenirs. John Heffron attended the New England AHCA's Summit (their version of Encounter only smaller) and had a good time. Good people and a lot of fun. Oh, yes. There will not be a meeting in the month of August for the Philly region.

The big news to come out of the Conclave (and a reason to attend the Summit) is that AHCA is interested in doing a joint Encounter/Conclave in 2015. We would partner with the New England region and work out a site for the event somewhere in the northeast. Some sites under consideration include Lake George, Hershey and Gettysburg to name a few early contestants. A joint team will be developed with the target of making a presentation to the AHCA Board of Delegates at Indianapolis in November. Looks encouraging.

John Davies says his 140 Jag roadster is running well and has had it out often. John Heffron is trying to get his new 100 ready in time for Encounter but is also pushing to get his Tiger done this summer as well. Leo Kob's E type retirement project has reached the paint level which means he only has 20 more years of work to do.

BTW, we understand that Gerry Kunkle, our esteemed Treasurer, is looking for a 100. If you have an extra sitting around you may want to contact Gerry.

Hope everyone is handling this lovely weather well.

Yr Obt Srvt,

Hero Racer



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# Encounter 2012...the 35th

By Allen Rosenberg and Steve Jekogian



One of the great things about Encounter is seeing old friends and catching up. So to help with that on Thursday night we have set up a drive to a local restaurant with a big parking lot reserved for the Healeys. Details will be in your registration package and caravans will be set up from the hotel.

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.

So send in the registration form today as you know you are going to go.

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## 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 a restaurant for lunch.

## 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
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## *Encounter Cont...*

### 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 2:00
- Free Encounter framed 5X7 picture of your car taken by Mark Goodman 4:00
- BBQ dinner starts at 5:30 -7:00
- Charity auction and trophies awards 8:00-10:00

### SATURDAY EVENTS

- Popular car show 11-3
- Kiddy Khana 10:15-11:15
- The hotly contested Valve Cover race 12:30-2:00 ( 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.
- 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.

Lots of activities for Encounter planning, and Some new thing will be added to the event, like:

- Morning Walk 9:00 am – 10:00 am – Thurs, Fri, Sat Bring you walking shoes
- Yoga Friday --Bring your Mat
- Ladies Tea – Saturday -with Marion Coker Tea Tasting British Tea
- Kids Healey Coloring Contest –voting at car show
- Ongoing Events in Hospitality room
  - Wii Bowling Tournament
  - Bean bag toss Game
  - Scavenger Hunt
- Hospitality Suite/Game Room
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kids               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large Piece Jigsaw puzzle</li> <li>• Party Plah Doh</li> <li>• Silly putty</li> <li>• Legos/Building Blocks</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jigsaw puzzles on tables</li> <li>• Sukoku and Crossword Puzzle book pages</li> <li>• Cards for Bridge,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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Plus all the other great things Encounter is known for rally, gymkhana, funkhana ( which is all about New Jersey so study up about the Garden State)

If you need MORE Info contact Allen Rosenbergl bigalnj@aol.com, or call 908-754-7511. Steve Jekogian, 201-213-8217 steve.jekogian@merck.com .

## Encounter Gymkhana & Teamkhana Rules

### GYMKHANA RULES

We will have the following car classifications:

- Stock Sprite
- Modified Sprite
- Stock Big Healey
- Modified Big Healey
- Other Healey – (Not eligible for FTD or Teamkhana awards)
  - Any model Healey that is not licensed and able to be legally driven on the street
  - Any model Healey with a non-Healey engine

The modifications that will bump a car from stock to modified are:

- Non-Healey transmissions
- Tuned exhaust headers
- 1275 engines in Mk I or Mk II Sprites
- Non-stock carburetion
- Oversize tires:
- Sprites – 165/70-13 maximum
- Big Healeys – 185/70-15 maximum

### TEAMKHANA RULES

The Teamkhana competition will consist of the total of the fastest times of one car in each of the following STOCK classifications from each Region (lowest total wins):

Stock Sprite

Stock Big Healey

NOTE: Only your first three runs will count toward a Gymkhana and Teamkhana trophy. For those who register two or more cars, you will be allowed three runs per car (time permitting), but only your first three runs will count toward a Gymkhana and Teamkhana trophy.

These rules changes were brought about by the newly-formed Driving Committee at our first meeting at the Import Car Show in Carlisle this past May and presented to the AHSTC Board at the June Board meeting. The purpose of the Driving Committee is to promote safety and fairness at AHSTC driving events. The AHSTC Board is looking for one member from each Region to be a member of the Driving Committee. If interested, please contact me (Del Border) at [delborder@comcast.net](mailto:delborder@comcast.net) or at 717-235-1086.

If you do not remember the old Gymkhana and Teamkhana rules, the changes are:

## *Encounter 'Khana Rules Cont...*

- Changing the “Other/hybrid” class to include all-out race cars. Since many of our cars are now modified to some degree, this change will no longer have them competing against all-out race cars.
- Adding non-Healey transmissions to modifications that will place a car into a modified class. The popular 5-speed conversions have an advantage over the original Healey transmissions with quicker, easier shifting and the ability to easily downshift from 2nd gear to 1st gear in a tight driving event.
- Removing modified cars from the Teamkhana. This places more emphasis on stock/original Healeys in this event. Also, by removing the modified cars, each Region should now have stock cars in the two classes and be eligible to win the Teamkhana trophy. Before this change, usually the Philadelphia and Harrisburg Regions were the only two Regions which had cars in all 4 classes. Other Regions consistently had no chance to win the Teamkhana due to not entering modified cars.
- Only a competitor’s first 3 runs will count toward a Gymkhana and Teamkhana trophy. For example – If you registered a Sprite, a big Healey and a race car, you would have to run your first run in the Sprite, your second run in the big Healey and your third run in the race car (but not necessarily in that order) to be eligible for a Gymkhana and Teamkhana trophy. You would then come back and run your final two runs with each car – 9 runs total. This removes “practice” runs which isn’t fair to those with one car who get only three runs total.

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# Valve Cover Race Rules

The attached rules will be used as the official sanctioned rules for the 2011 valve cover races. Participants are reminded that this is a fun event, not a serious competition, so please treat it as such. Also be aware that any and all decisions by chief judge Jim Cox are final and not subject to debate.

## HISTORY:

The AHSTC has been running valve cover races at Encounters since 2005. John Davies is the father of this heralded competition. The original rules were derived from those established in England by the Druids while taking breaks building their stone henges all over the hinterland. John constructed the regulation ramp with highly-automated starting gate.

Due to the popularity and creativity generated over the past few years (particularly by our younger participants), the 2011 competition will be expanded as was done in 2010. Our goal remains to involve the club's junior participants and encourage family projects in the construction of a valve cover racer (VCR). Therefore each racer class will have two divisions, Senior and Junior.

Competition under the original rules will be known as the Regulation Class. Here is a quick summary of those rules:

1. The VCR can be any length but the width must fit on the official AHSTC 14 inch wheel track;
2. The car must be constructed from a BMC valve cover and have 4 wheels;
3. Any style of wheel, bearing or lubrication is allowed. Wheel diameter is limited to 6 inches;
4. All motive force must be provided by gravity;
5. Wheel base is not to exceed 24 inches;
6. A part of the front wheels must cross the finish line ahead of the body;
7. No electrical or magnetic devices allowed on the VCR;
8. There is no construction material, weight or height limit on VCRs;

The Open Class offers more latitude in creativity and construction: Cars that do not qualify for Regulation Class will compete here. Modifications that would put your VC racer in this class include:

1. Any VCRs with other than 4 wheels;
2. Any VCRs with wheels larger than 6 inches;
3. Any VCR longer than 24 inches but still able to rest properly at the starting line;



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## Encounter Valve Cover Race Rules Cont...

4. Any VCR with a body extending beyond the front wheels;EVENTS 19
5. Any VCR deemed in the opinion of the Chief Judge to offer an unfair advantage against the participants in the Regulation Class;

### GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

1. In order to classify each VCR, a "Tech Inspection" will be held beginning 1 hour prior to the race. In true Gymkhana fashion, inspection stickers will be affixed prior to queuing up. Driver's names will be collected and driver classification assigned at that time;
2. In order to assist the Chief Judge and other personnel, name tags will be provided to the drivers which must be worn during the competition;
3. VCRs can continue to be shared among drivers of both Divisions within the same Class with appropriate notice to the Chief Judge for ease record keeping;
4. The double-elimination system will continue to be used for each Class/Division
5. The results of the registration, classification and heat winners will be recorded on official forms to create a permanent record and reduce any clerical errors on the part of the organizers;
6. One award for each age division will be presented in both the Regulation and Open classes for a total of four awards.
7. Junior Division drivers will be under 12 years of age, Senior Division includes 12 years and older. Men and women are in the same class in both divisions for this competition;
8. The VCR must fit on the starting area of the AHSTC track (with the present hinged extension) in order to qualify to run;
9. VCRs must run through the finish line within the marked course for a valid run;
10. Creative design, decoration and personalization is encouraged!
11. The Chief Judge will review the conduct and results of the overall event annually and suggest any needed changes as appropriate for the next Encounter. Suggestions are always encouraged. The Chief Judge will be available to address any concerns. The decisions of the Chief Judge shall be considered final.

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## Events Calendar

### AUGUST

- August 2-4 – The Roadster Factory SUMMER PARTY 2012, Armaugh PA ([map](#))
- August 3-5 – 49th Annual Das Awkscht Fescht, Macungie, PA [www.awkscht.com](http://www.awkscht.com)
- August 4 - 8th Annual Pennypacker Mills British Car Day, Hosted by the Delaware Valley Classic MG Chapter. Held at the Pennypacker Mills Historic Site along the Perkiomen Creek just below Schwenksville, PA. For more information [Click here](#)
- August 9 – 11 - AHSTC Encounter, Somerset, NJ
- August 11,12 - New Hope Automobile Show, New Hope-Solebury High School, 180 W. Bridge St., New Hope, Pa.
- August 12 - Lanco MG Club Picnic, Rocky Ridge Park York, PA.
- August 18 - Spyglass Ridge Winery Celtic Festival, Sunbury PA, Join us for a great day of music, food, wine, crafts and an all-around great time. <http://www.spyglassridgewinery.com/celtic.html>
- August 17-19 - University Motors Summer Party, Grand Rapids, MI
- August 20 - “Midsummer Night’s Dream Car Show” at Long’s Park, Lancaster, PA. Sponsored by the Lancaster Sertoma Club. The challenge this year is to have 100 British Cars on the field. If there are 10 or more cars registered from Lanco we secure preferred parking on the field. For more information on the event [Click here](#)
- August 26 – 23rd Annual “A Taste of Britain” Car Show. Rothsville, PA. An annual Lanco MG Club sponsored gathering for all British Vehicles and Motorcycles combined with a Polo Match for the “Taste of Britain Cup”. Show Field Opens at 10:00 a.m. for Vehicles - No Judging. Polo Match at 2:30. (flyer/registration form)
- August 27 - British Racing Green Demo Day at the Simeone Museum
- August 31-September 3 – Baltimore Grand Prix, <http://www.2012baltimoregrandprix.com/index.html>
- August 31-Sept 3 – Labor Day weekend, Historic Festival 29 at Lime Rock Park, Lime Rock, CT [http://www.limerock.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=101&Itemid=99](http://www.limerock.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=101&Itemid=99)

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## Events Calendar Cont...

### SEPTEMBER

- September 7-9 – Central PA British Car Club show at Del Grosso Park, Altoona, PA.
- September 7-9 – Watkins Glen Vintage Grand Prix Weekend, Watkins Glen, NY. For more information Click here
- September 9 - Lanco MG Club Meeting, 3:00 PM, Florentinos Restaurant, Lancaster Airport location, PA route 501 North.
- Sept 14-16 – “The British Invasion”, Stowe, VT. For more information Click here
- Sept. 15 - Brits on the Beach car show in Ocean Grove, NJ, <http://pedc.org/>
- Sept. 15 – BCCD 2011 Annual Car Show, Delaware City, DE, <http://bccdelaware.com>
- Sept 16 – The Hagley Car Show, Wilmington, DE, <http://www.hagley.lib.de.us/events.html>
- Sept 18 – AHSTC Harrisburg Region Monthly Meeting, 6:30 PM, go carting and mini-golf tournament.
- September 22 - 23: New Jersey Historic Races, New Jersey Motorsport Park, Millville, NJ
- September 24 - Rosso Corsa – Italian Racing Red Demo Day at the Simeone Museum
- September 29 – Autumn Leaf Festival, Moravian Academy, Bethlehem, PA, <http://www.bcclv.com/autumnleaf.html>



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# You might just be collector car obsessed if...

by John & Jennifer Payne

You might just be collector car obsessed if:

- \* You feel compelled on a road trip to beat your previous time.
- \* You are happiest when your street car's tires are worn to "racing depth"
- \* When something falls off your car you wonder how much weight you just saved.
- \* When you hear "overcooked it" instead of food you think "off the track"
- \* You sometimes hear little noises from passengers when you get on the throttle right after turning in
- \* Your Healey budget is one of the big three---mortgage, car payments and maintenance.
- \* Your e-mail address refers to your race car rather than you.
- \* You walk "proper lines" through the grocery store.
- \* You've paid \$10.00 a gallon for gasoline without complaining.
- \* You buy new parts because you can't remember where you put the spares.
- \* The requirements you give your real estate agent are (in order of importance):
  - \* 8-car climate controlled garage with an attached shop.
  - \* Outside parking for six cars, a motor home, a crew cab dualie, a 28 foot enclosed trailer,
  - \* 3phase 220V outlets in the garage for your welder.
  - \* A grease pit.
  - \* Conveniently close to a hazardous waste disposal site.
  - \* Deaf neighbors.
  - \* Across the street from a paint and body shop.
  - \* Some sort of house with a working toilet and shower on the property or a hookup for the motor home.
- \* You look at the purchase of tools as a long-term investment.
- \* Your garage holds more cars than your house has bedrooms.
- \* You have enough spare parts to build another car.
- \* More than one Healey supply house recognizes your voice and greets you by name when you call.
- \* You're registered for birthday gifts at Moss and Healey Surgeons.
- \* After you answer to "what did you do this weekend?" the next question is always "and you do this for fun? Right?"
- \* You have a separate drawer for garage clothes.
- \* Your reading material in the bathroom consists of auto parts and racing supply catalogues. Several books written by famous drivers, none of which have centerfolds.

## *collector car obsessed test Cont...*

- \* People know you by your make, model and car color.
- \* Your first date involves asking her to go on a sports car event with you.
- \* Your criteria for selecting a significant other includes auto repair skills - tools are optional.
- \* You plan all significant events around the car show schedule.
- \* You astound the clerk at Sears by bringing in a snapped Craftsman breaker bar every other week or so.
- \* Your family brings the couch into the garage so they can spend some time with you.
- \* You complain that cars in front of you on the highway off ramp don't hold the racing line, causing your exit speed to drop.
- \* A neighbor asks if you have any oil, to which you query, "Synthetic or regular" to which they reply "vegetable or corn".
- \* You refer to the corner down the street from your house as turn one.
- \* You look at the fire hydrant on that corner and see an apex marker.
- \* You always do a heel toe downshift while your passengers give you a real funny look.
- \* You think that traction control and ABS are for those who can't drive.
- \* You save broken car parts as mementos.
- \* You've found that your lawn mower runs pretty good on 108-octane gas, but doesn't care for alcohol
- \* Instead of family pictures in your wallet you have your collector cars.
- \* You consider the redline on your tachometer as a "conservative" suggestion and your rev limiter as a "fun" limiter.
- \* When someone asks you where you went to school you reply "Skip Barber".
- \* You have parts suppliers programmed on your speed dialer.
- \* You own five cars and only one of them is street legal.
- \* After you tell your wife where you would like to go on your vacation she replies "why.. is there a car show there?"

*Excerpted from VSCDA Newsletter January 2002*



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# Tech Tip: Bleedless Brake Light Switch Replacement

by Steve Feld

The brake light switch on my 1959 BT7 recently failed. This switch is located in the 5-way brake pipe connector just above the right front frame and below the generator (alternator in my case). To replace this switch, I learned how to do so bleedlessly, although not necessarily bleedlessly given the cramped location.

First, turn the master electric switch in the boot to the “Off” position. Open the brake fluid reservoir and cover tightly with a Saran type plastic wrap and secure with rubber band(s) to seal the brake system.

Place a rag or other suitable material under the 5-way connector to prevent brake fluid from dripping on any painted surfaces. Then remove the two wires connected to the brake light switch and unscrew the switch itself. Fill the hole in the new switch with fresh brake fluid – an eye dropper or other similar device is useful to get the fluid into the small opening. Very little fluid is needed to fill the hole.

Next, get a helper (human is best but a board of suitable length will do and save you a beer) who can apply very light pressure on the brake pedal while you screw the new switch into the connector. The pressure on the brake pedal should be only enough to bring the fluid level up to the brim of the opening in the 5-way connector. You will want to keep the hole in the switch upright as long as possible so the fluid has little opportunity to leak out. (BTW-Do not use anti-seize compound or Teflon tape on the switch threads.) Keeping the pressure on the brake pedal until the switch is about halfway into the threaded connector opening should be sufficient to insure no air seepage. Finish tightening with a spanner. Lastly, remove the plastic covering on the reservoir and reconnect the two wires to the switch (it doesn’t matter which wire goes to which screw.)



This method prevents air from seeping into the brake system and also insures that the switch is activated by brake fluid and not by air. I have done this twice and neither time did the brake system need to be bled. (Thanks to Bob Pense and Larry Gerstner for this method.)

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# Tech Tip: Generator

by Chuck Ott

The Austin-Healey generator has some required maintenance that you should not neglect. Have you ever noticed the little hole in the center of the back plate on the generator? If yours is nice and clean you can see that it says “oil” as shown in picture #1. This is a pathway for oil to get to the rear bearing of the generator. If you do not oil your generator, picture #2 and picture #3 result. Jim Martin contacted me to see if I had a spare generator that he could borrow as his was not working. He said that the generator was making noise and the dash light came on while he was leaving a show, and on the way home the generator had seized up. I told him to come on down and we would look at it. When we opened it up we found pics 2 and 3. The rear bearing had worn out and the rotor (center part of the generator) had come into contact with the stator (the outside housing of the generator). This had broken wires in both parts. In addition if you look closely at the picture of the stator you can see a little ring of silver dots around the outside. This is where solder melted out of the rotor and flung itself against the outside. Many times this is what causes a generator to fail due to the voltage regulator getting stuck in the “charge” position for long periods and overheating the rotor. When was the last time you changed your voltage regulator? If your generator goes bad it is a good idea to buy a new regulator. They are less than \$100 and are cheap insurance. As for Jim’s generator, he had called around to his usual supply sources and nobody had any for sale. He found a place that would rebuild it but it would take about 3 weeks. (Ploener’s Automotive Products, 510 South Market Street Wilmington, DE 19801 (302) 655-1260) The cost including shipping was under \$300. So a couple of drops of light oil (3-in-one works well) into the hole at the back of the generator is a worthwhile maintenance investment!



# News & Classifieds

## For Sale

**EXCELLENT 1965 BRG BJ8 FOR SALE.** The owner has returned to England and left the Healey with me in Virginia. It is well document older restoration with no bondo. Email me at Stella67@aol.com and I will provide the pictures and details.

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## CONTRIBUTIONS

AHSTC encourages the submission of articles to the Editor for publication. There is no restriction on content, other than it should be of interest to the readership and Healey related.

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The AHSTC is a non-profit, Pennsylvania corporation dedicated to the preservation of the Austin Healey marque. Contact Rick Brodeur or a region president to inquire on membership.

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*Send contributions and ads to  
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