

The *FLASH*

NOVEMBER 2013 | ISSUE 432



LOOSE-NUT

Our President Gets a Lesson in Calipers.

November 2013

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WHAT'S IN THE FLASH

By Steve Jekogian

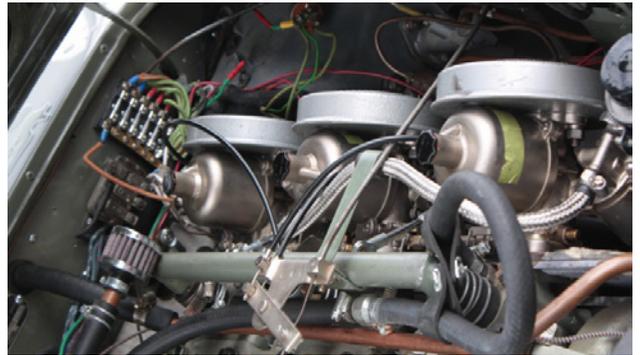
THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF THE FLASH FOR 2014. WHAT A GREAT YEAR. LOTS OF HEALEY DRIVING EVENTS, GREAT WEATHER, GREAT CAR SHOWS AND A FANTASTIC ENCOUNTER MADE 2014 REALLY GREAT.

When you think back on the year and the events and shows and club meetings you attended, I hope you enjoyed them. The car is just the “door opener” to a really nice group of honest people. I hope you enjoyed the people as much as your car.

Probably time to put the car in the garage under a car cover and wait for the nicer spring weather. Also, as you think of the “ever waiting to do” car projects please consider using the products and services of the many fine advertisers in the Flash. And tell them you saw their ad in the Flash.

The AHSTC Board of Directors wish you a very happy Thanksgiving and a happy holiday.

Enjoy the Flash and the car.



RPM

By Ray Donovan

HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE WEBSITE LATELY? WELL, IT'S BEEN UPDATED AND IS READY TO GROW IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICES TO OUR MEMBERS.

Presently you can choose a username and have access to past digital Flashes. Soon I hope you will be able to renew your membership on the website. Eventually, I would like to have an owners' forum for sharing information and an entire library of past technical articles. If you are tech-savvy, I would appreciate you contacting me and perhaps we can make this happen. We've already started by collecting as many previous technical articles from previous Flashes as possible; the next task will be to convert them to an electronic format so we can

upload to our site. While this is beginning to take place we will need someone to organize and create the system for retention and recalling these articles. Next, it would be nice to have our paper Flashes digitized and added to the library. I would also like to have membership profiles including photographs of your car(s). We should even be able to offer Regalia sales.

Next year Lehigh Valley will be hosting the event in Bethlehem, PA during Musikfest. Encounter will take place August 7th through the 9th, so be sure to mark your calendars. I would really like to see those of you who have thought about attending but never have before at Lehigh.

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LOOSE-NUT

By Ray Donovan

I APOLOGIZE FOR STOPPING THE EARTH FROM SPINNING LAST MONTH; I STARTED WORKING ON MY 1961 BUG-EYE SPRITE.

For those of you who may not have heard, I purchased John Morrison's Sprite. The last registration sticker on the car dates back to 1997, so I guess it's been off the road ever since. While trying to move it from John's shed to the rental trailer [thank you Cargo Trailer Sales], I noted [as did my back] that the wheels were not rotating. Originally, as is my nature, I assumed it was a worse case scenario -- frozen engine? Perhaps a frozen clutch, I thought? Both proved incorrect as I later discovered that all of the brakes were locked up with rust. Ok, to be honest, perhaps it was just the rear brake drums, I don't really know, but once removed everything spun easily. So, now you have an example of my skilled mechanical diagnostic capabilities.

I should probably explain for those of you who know me that my toolbox normally consists of a checkbook and a cell phone. These items combined with my AAA card and the telephone numbers of the trusted mechanics who have worked on my Big Healeys are really all I've ever needed in the past. With the purchase of the Bugeye, however, I decided that it was high time I learned how to work on these cars myself (well, at least those built using 1950s technology, or should I say 1930s?). I cannot admit that this decision was mine and mine alone. A friend marveled at my construction skills after gutting and rebuilding our middle bathroom. "I

don't understand how you can perform such skilled work on your home but fail to exhibit any ability whatsoever to do the same on your Healeys", he said. After ruminating a [very] short time, I convinced myself that this was not only a situation I could rectify but also a very good idea given my current bank balance. "I'm a reasonably intelligent person," I thought. "I should be able to take these cars apart and reassemble them." Note to self: "reasonably" may be the key word in the preceding sentence.

So, shortly after unloading [read: dragging] the car off the rental trailer [did I thank my friends at Cargo?], I promptly jacked the car up and placed its four corners onto jack stands. Removed the wire wheels ["piece of cake," I thought]. After some [very] short evaluation of the current status, I began to 'dismantle' the brakes. . . first problem encountered: "What the h**I are those grease caps held in with," I thought, as I tried pulling them from inside the hubs using, what-else, a pair of needle nose vice grips. "Ah-ha", I exclaimed upon removal, after much cursing and pulling, I noted the threads that I had 'buggered-up;' must be a special tool for this! Duh!

It was quite obvious to me that I needed

"DON'T EVER DO THAT!"

to proceed by loosening each and every nut and bolt on my way to 'replacing the rotors.' Did I mention that the front brakes had been converted to disks? It was about this time that a good [read: mechanically inclined] Healey friend arrived. He stopped by to look into another problem I was having with my BJ-8 and figured he'd also get a look at the new find. "DON'T EVER DO THAT!" he screamed at the top of his lungs! "Do what?" I asked. "Don't ever, ever, split the calipers!" He proceeded to relieve me of my tools and took the caliper in his hands and began treating it as if it were a wounded bird. He bent over [I thought he was going to kiss them, you know, like kissing a kids boo-boo to make it better]. Instead, he blew on them and began putting them back together, muttering something about an unobtainable 'o' ring, or perhaps it was just "oh!," like OMG-what an idiot. As I was kneeling in front of the car [genuflecting, some might say] and feeling extremely admonished, my other long time friend pulled up in his black 1980 anniversary model MGB. Upon seeing the condition of the calipers, he said, "Oh, you never split the calipers." "What the heck," I thought "Were they originally put together my magic fairies?" Ok, lesson number one, start by removing **assemblies** in order to get to the part you would like to replace. Don't necessarily take everything apart down to the last nut and bolt.

Again, as I stated in my opening sentence, I heartfully apologize for causing the earth from rotating off its axis. The calipers have been reassembled and we can now all look forward to the fall season. I have removed all offending parts and am awaiting some replacement pieces before reassembly. As you may have noticed, I changed the moniker of my banner to read, "loose-nut," I think, given my current status as a challenged apprentice, this will stick for awhile. Hopefully, I will continue to make progress on the Sprite's refurbishment and will continue to update you on my progress. That is unless everyone makes fun of me after reading this; at which point, I may telephone one of my trusted shops. After all, my wife wants me to gut and renovate our kitchen --something I am much more comfortable with doing.

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We have a new member this month.

By Rick Brodeur

BRANDYWINE

William & Lee Obrien
Newark, DE
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PHILADELPHIA

Edward & Arta Szathmary
'55 BN1

THE REVISED WEBSITE IS RUNNING AND WE NOW HAVE A PAYPAL ACCOUNT. NEW MEMBERS CAN JOIN AND PAY THROUGH PAYPAL IF THEY DESIRE. WE ARE WORKING ON A WAY TO RENEW MEMBERSHIPS THROUGH THE WEBSITE FOR THE COMING RENEWAL PERIOD.

If you haven't signed up to the website you should so you can get access to member-only content. When you sign up on the website as a member I'll get an email. Within a day or two I'll verify you're a member and authorize access to the member only area which includes past Flash newsletters. When you log in to the site you will be at your 'Profile' page. Here you can add information about yourself, change password, etc.

From there you go to the website by clicking on 'The Austin Healey Sports & Touring C...' in the grey bar at the top of the page.

Right now the member-only content gives you access to past Flash issues. The region and club editors are working on uploading region information.

Our member lists are available to any member just for the asking. Each Region President has a copy that can be distributed, and I can send out a copy to any member who requests one. My email address for the Club is membership@austin-healey-stc.org. If you have any questions about your membership please contact me. Contacting me is the quickest way to solve a membership problem. My phone number and email address are on the inside front page of the Flash and also on our web site.



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By Mike Bradley

WE HAD OUR OCTOBER MEETING LAST NIGHT. I'D LIKE TO THANK THE SIX OTHER MEMBERS WHO CAME. MOST OF THE MEETING, OF COURSE, WAS DEDICATED TO ENCOUNTER 2014.

We are still working on a logo, although we seem to have come to a consensus on design. I will attempt to draw up a facsimile of what we discussed and distribute it via e-mail this week. If anyone is, or knows, a Graphic Artist who can do a rendering (on the cheap), please let me know asap. We need to move forward with this quickly so we can research shirts, hats, etc.

I will contact Musikfest to see if we can coordinate any activities with them. This would possibly be our Wednesday night event. As you know our Encounter will be running concurrent with this annual festival.

Gerry Kunkle is looking into our Thursday evening event.

Bob Weaver and I will coordinate the Rally, using his famous Covered Bridge Tour as a base.

Bob Snyder is working with the Sponsors.

Co-Chair Bob Pritchett has agreed to do the Funkana yet again. He always does a terrific job..

Jane Nase has offered to repeat as Kiddiekana organizer.

We will be offering one or two self-guided tours for folks who don't participate in the Rally.

Long Island and Philly have offered to help at the event, but we STILL need local members to help in the planning. There is a lot to do and we have limited time. Please come out to our November meeting and participate.

There were two shows this month. As usual, the Autumn Leaf show @ Moravian Academy was well attended with a nice mixture of all of the British Marques. This is a very nice show and you should consider attending next year. It is run by our very own Gerry Kunkle in conjunction with Moravian fall festival. Kudos to Gerry Kunkle for 1st Place in the Big Healey category with his 100 and to Phil Nase for 1st for the Sprites with his Bugeye.

I wasn't able to attend last Saturdays Peddlar's Village show. I understand there was a great turnout with 15 Healeys present. It was a beautiful fall day and the venue is terrific. Again congrats to Region members Phil and Gerry for 1st and 2nd in the Sprite division. The New Jersey Region had a very good turnout with Steve Jekogian winning 1st in the

Big Healeys with his 3000.

Rick Brodeur reports that the website is up and running and urges ALL to sign on. Much of the club information, i.e. events, meetings and Encounter info, will be available on the site.

We have determined that Saturday December 7th will be the date for the Christmas Party. However, we still need a volunteer to host it. Please step up or we will be forced to cancel it this year. This is always fun and well attended and we hope we can proceed. Let Ken Beck or me know if you are interested.

That's all fpor now. Hope to see you all at the November meeting.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH - CHRISTMAS PARTY

By John Heffron

PHILADELPHIA

IN MID OCTOBER, LEO & MARTI KOB LED A BRAVE GROUP OF 10 CARS ON A SCENIC 50 MILE TOUR OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY FROM THE VALLEY FORGE CASINO TO THE CHARMING TOWN OF SKIPPACK.

Led by Leo and Marti Kob in their 3000, the Duncleys in their 100-6, the Payne in their 3000, The Ludovics in Nick's newly restored 2 seat tri carb, the Wogloms in their 3000, the Brabsons in their white Sprite, Ben Kenion in his black Sprite, Randy Alkins in his bumblebee yellow Sprite, Leo's friends in their MGTD and yours truly in his Mini Clubman as the trailer car trekked over hill and dale for a few hours.

As a trio of New Jerseyans left Ben's house in the morning it was ominously cloudy with threats of showers. The rains never came as it turned into a marvelous fall, top down, driving day with temps in the high 60's. The Kob's did a marvelous job of documenting and updating a very scenic route originally developed by late region member Dale Kulp. We stopped for a photo op at Kulp's General Store (no relation) near the end of the tour and fondly remembered our old friend who so much loved his British sports cars.

Some of the brave group traveled without maps depending on the good fortune and wits of the cars in front of them. Needless to say, this resulted in a few u turns, and other



Philly Region Fall Tour - Trish would like to know when the bathroom break will be...



A stop at Kulp's General Store (late member Dale Kulp put this tour together)



Departure from the Valley Forge Casino



The Ludovic's 2 seater tricarb back on the road

assorted corrections along the route. We only lost one car, (they who shall remain anonymous) but were happily reunited at our lunch site rendezvous. All the cars ran flawlessly and everyone had smiles on their faces when we convened for some sumptuous repast and lubricants at the tour's end. Again, an excellent choice of venue was made at Basta Pasta in Skippack where camaraderie and spirits were shared along with a lot of laughs.

It's great when we get these outings together as everyone seems to really enjoy them. Our newly appointed (self volunteered) regional activities director (President Donovan) will be diligently planning more activities over the coming months.

Driving home I was thinking that for \$35 bucks a year we get a fantastic bargain for our membership if we choose to take advantage of it. The monthly Flash, attending encounters, tours, picnics, holiday parties, tech sessions and monthly meetings gives us a lot of opportunities to enjoy our cars and our friendships. I can hardly think of a better way to spend a sunny day. Those of you who don't often participate, should really give it a shot – you won't regret it.

Our monthly meeting was held at Mariano's on the

21st with 12 in attendance. We shared stories of the above tour, some feedback on Hershey and some updates on the progress of our planned 2015 Joint meet with AHCA. It was great to see Steve & Gerri Kirilin come out.

Ben Kenion has graciously offered his home again as the venue for our annual party to be held on Saturday, December 14th. We will have more info and detailed directions in upcoming e-flashes. Pennsylvanians need to just remember this year that when you get to Moorestown and you cross the railroad tracks – you have gone too far! Also remember that we charge you to leave the fine State of New Jersey to get back home.

There was a great turnout for the Peddlers Village show in Lahaska, PA in late October. Although I did not attend, I understand that a strong showing of Healeys was present and both Philly and North Jersey region members brought home some award hardware. Congrats to all the winners.

In other news, I recently sold rather than bought a LBC. My 1960 TR3A show car has gone to a better place. I just did not have enough time to drive it and hated to see it sit under cover in the man cave.



Departure from the Valley Forge Casino

I had been contemplating taking it to Scottsdale in January as it is very fetching in its resale red color with overdrive, wide whitewalls and chrome wire

wheels. However, thanks to Pete Cosmides, some dots were connected and the car will remain local at the Jersey shore with a real enthusiast who plans to

park it in his dining room – no kidding – his dining room! I suspect I could have done financially better in Arizona but I was comfortable with knowing it was going to a good home rather than to some “flipper” or dealer with little or no passion for the car. I have never bought a LBC as an investment, and hope I never will. I buy them because I like them for what they are – pieces of automotive art and engineering that are tied to times past when things were simpler (and I was more agile.....).

To all our members, have a Happy Turkey Holiday!

Austin Healey

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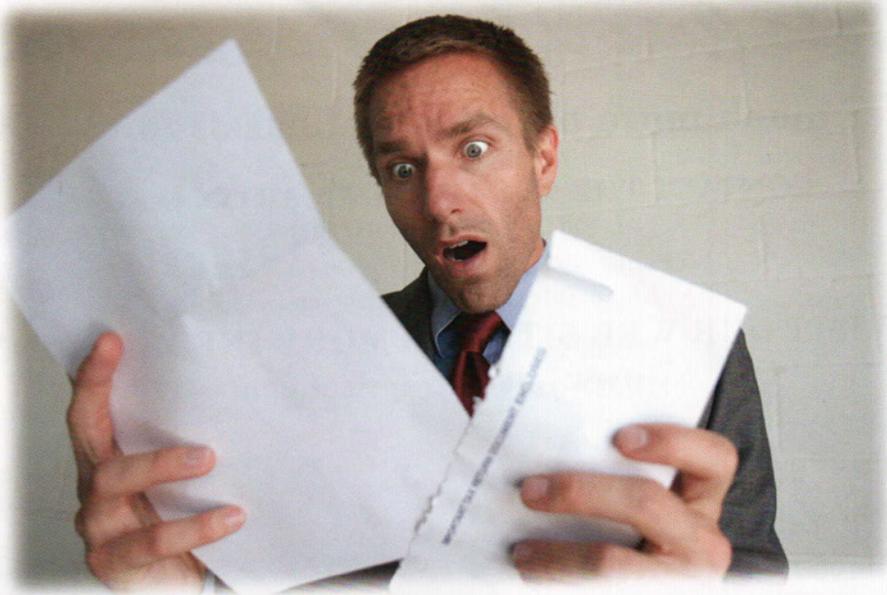
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BRANDYWINE

By Ernie Leser



Gina and Chuck Ott; Kris and Steve Garrett.

The annual Brandywine Region Picnic was held Saturday, October 5th at our house in Maryland. Sunshine and temperatures in the mid 80's made for excellent picnic weather. The weather conditions make any outdoor event tricky, we're always grateful when it works out well.

I think every year the ribs are better – my favorite. Hamburgers, hot dogs, a variety of salads and desserts assured that no one went away hungry. Andrew, the Grill Meister, kept the goodies flowing. As usual, the Oktoberfest beer was the most popular of the brews.

A total of 21 members attended along with 4 BJ8's, 2 square body Sprites, one Bugeye, and one Mini. At the picnic were: Steve and Kris Garrett; Jim Martin; Mike Pollack; Buzz and Paula Marshall; Bert and Kathleen Peterson; Chuck, Sue, Gina, and Randy Ott; Tom, Katie, and Lia Coletti; Brian Ehret and his friend Emily; Andrew and Lydia Leser; Joan and myself. See attached photos.

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Our next event will be the annual Election of Officers. All positions are open, and remember "Change is Good" -- most of the time that is.

BRANDYWINE EVENTS

- NOVEMBER, THURSDAY 14TH, 7 PM. ELECTIONS. IRON HILL BREWERY, THE RIVERFRONT, WILMINGTON, DE.
- DECEMBER, SATURDAY 7TH, 6 PM. CHRISTMAS PARTY AND UGLY GIFT EXCHANGE. THE ZALEWSKI'S RESIDENCE, NORTH EAST, MD. RSVP TO DIANE BY NOV. 30TH (410-287-5885).
- JANUARY, 2014, THURSDAY 23RD, 7 PM. EVENTS PLANNING. MATILDA'S RESTAURANT, NEWARK, DE.



Mike Pollack; Buzz and Paula Marshall; Bert Peterson.



Andrew and Lydia Leser; Kathleen Peterson.

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Healeys and Mini at the picnic.

By Don Hoffer

HARRISBURG

THE DRIVING SEASON HAS FINALLY SLIPPED INTO THE INEVITABLE COLD OF EARLY WINTER - SEEMS THE FALL AND SPRING SEASONS OF YEARS PAST ARE NOW MUCH SHORTER, BUT THE REGION MANAGED TO CRAM IN THE FALL TOUR WHILE THE WEATHER HELD. THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON THE EVENT WRITTEN BY DAVE HOOPER NEEDS NO EDITING BY ME.

The Harrisburg Region, AHSTC, held its annual Fall Tour and vaunted Pumpkin Roll on Sat., October 19, 2013 on another pristine Fall Day beginning in Bowmansdale, PA. 6 intrepids started the adventure including 2 Healeys, 1 new Jaguar sedan, a Miata, a Lotus, and a real Korean sedan. Liz and Scott Brockman lead the way through the innards of Cumberland, Adams, and York Counties through towns, dales and villages seldom seen and which fewer ever heard of. This writer saw the names of at least two new towns that do not even populate any map known to mankind. This was in spite the fact that this area has been our residence for the past 35 years in South Central Pennsylvania.

Approximately three hours and seventy miles later we finished under darkening skies. The usual feast followed hosted by the majority of the Brockman clan on their country estate in the northern side of York County. First, however we stopped outside Mt. Holly Springs, PA at Peters Farm for a long awaited rest stop, picture taking, pumpkin purchases, yacking, as well as pie and dessert purchases. The Kia's trunk wall was filled with as many pumpkins as it



Liz and Scott Brockman with their pumpkins

would hold since none of the other vehicles would hold that many. Hats off the Heather Brockman for toting a wagon load of pumpkins back to the estate!

We continued up and down roads that seldom felt the thunder of two Healey's which happened to drop the usual drops of oil throughout the three aforementioned counties.

The lunch feast at the Brockman's was first class as usual. A few drops of rain prompted the group to begin the pumpkin roll a bit more promptly. Having a natural hill and homemade targets on the property made the long anticipated pumpkin roll even more exciting. The crowd gathered and at the crack of the starter's gun the roll began, one individual at a time. ESPN missed out on the sporting event of the season.

Five rounds later, the suspense ended with the Brockman's taking both distance awards in a declared tie, and the Hooper's taking the



cars lined up for the trip to the "Patch"

points awards for accuracy, since both roll offs ended in virtual ties. The balance of the Brockman clan and their friends did very well who were “ringers” also. Seems one 6 year old boy heads the list of future Healey owners since his accuracy was admirable. He attracted the largest crowd with his throwing accuracy, and the most screams from his adult admirers.

Rain started to be more of an issue, and after 5 rounds, this writer had seen enough to file this complete and accurate report. The suspicion is that additional competition continued in the latter hours of the day until darkness since the younger Brockman’s had the entire course to themselves practicing for next year’s event now only 365 days in the future.

The Region’s Awards Banquet on the 9th of November will be history by the time you receive this, but the porgressive dinner which starts on Saturday,

December 7th at Hoopers will finalize our activities for the year - Don’t miss it.

E-mail from the Grand Poobah will reach you in plenty of time to resolve details.

Next year promises to be an enjoyable one for the region. Encounter 2014 is close and held by others and we get to thoroughly enjoy it. Some new region activities for 2014 are in process of devious development and will be presented at our 1st 2014 meeting in January. Hold your hat, two of them are mine! Not to worry, at least in our region you get to vote on it! Your scribe wishes all of you a happy holiday season, free from the grief of the previous eleven months.

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By George Crombie

NORTH JERSEY

I must be slipping more than usual, lately. I really had to dig through some deep stuff on the table to find the notes I took of the past few events. And then, I noticed that I didn't even take the time to date these notes: I sure hope I've got them credited to where they belong!

On Tuesday night, October 8th, 2013 several of the faithful gathered at the La Cucina Restaurant in Denville, NJ for the monthly meeting. The meeting started around 7:15 PM, and included the following members: Steve Feld*, Richard Ippoliti*, Ian Kessen*, Larry Gersten (MINI), Frank Dapiran, Jim Vollmuth (Morgan), Steve Jekogian, Tom Mulligan, and George Crombie. Those names listed with asterisks drove their Healeys. Larry brought along a rather large paint sample of the color his 3000 will be wearing (I'll give you a hint: it kind of looks like Golden Beige Metallic), and passed it around to a chorus of "oohhs" and "aahhs". Ian called the meeting to order, and while we were waiting for the burgers, pizzas, and salads to arrive, we made quick work of most of the items on his agenda. It sort of helps to have a short list.

Among the items addressed were: The upcoming Fall Tour of Hunterdon County (put together by the MG Car Club Central Jersey Centre) slated for the following Saturday, Oct. 12, rain or shine, and limited to the first 50 cars registered;



The British Car Show at The Peddler's Village, just over the state line into Pennsylvania and a stone's throw from Route 202; The annual Holiday Party, usually scheduled for around the first Saturday in December, BUT there was a lot of talk about having it after the first of the new year (namely around the 11th of January, or even on some other date...). This discussion is still ongoing; come to the next meeting to put in your comments. Also discussed was the place and time for the November meeting. This is scheduled for November 5th (election day!) at 7:00 PM at The La Cucina Restaurant in Denville. And fancy that!! We will be having our very own elections that night, as well! Not to fear, the three officer positions have been filled by volunteers; their names have been presented, seconded, and the motions were carried. Now we need a quorum (that's, like, a dozen, give or take ten or so members to vote) just to make it official, SO COME ON OUT AND MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!!! You know you are just wasting your vote when you vote for a career politician, but with us, your vote will actually matter!!

This appears to be the only Regional Club Meeting where one of the attendees actually scored a trophy, for a car he didn't even drive to the meeting!! How's THAT for talent? Tom Mulligan got a trophy for his Corvette...(okay; so it was for an earlier show that he had to leave early from, but Ralph Scarfogliero was also attending, but stayed later at; who was planning to give it to Tom at FallFest; only Tom wasn't at FallFest, but Larry Gersten was, so Ralph gave it to Larry, who brought it along to the October Meeting to give it to Tom, who was there to accept it, and with a tear in his eye, he gave a very heartfelt "Thank you speech" to all those in attendance. Hey! Who's telling this story, anyway?). Congratulations, Tom!

The Fall Tour of the Backroads of Hunterdon County, hosted by the MG Car Club Central Jersey Centre, was held on Saturday morning, October 12th, 2013. It started at the Belvidere Diner at 475 US Route 46 in Belvidere (naturally!) at about 9:45. By my estimate, there had to have been in excess of 40 British cars in attendance. I had my socks and shoes off, and was right in the middle of counting the cars when the first few cars took off. That kind of screwed up my count, so I gave up. We did have a number of folks from the North Jersey Region make it out for the drive. Ian & Sue Kessen (Healey), Jim & Corrine Vollmuth (Morgan), Richard Ippolitti (Healey), and Steve Feld (Healey), caravanned in together. Frank Dapiran

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(Healey) and his navigator/co-pilot Charlie, arrived in time to grab a breakfast before attempting to run this tour again. The last time this pair ran this tour was around 40 years ago, and they got lost. This year they didn't do too much better; Frank's fuel pump gave out before they made it to the first scheduled stop, which was at Cane Farm Furniture in Rosemont, NJ. Triple A to the rescue, but their day was shot. I would strongly advise that they don't wait another 40 years before attempting this run again. Bob & Kay Truckmiller drove their green 3000 in from Ramsey, Ralph Scarfogliero brought out his MGA-V8 to give it some exercise (and to keep the petroleum magnates in business; he gets about 8 MPG on the highway, slightly less on twisty backroads), and Denise and I arrived in Little Red. I want to thank Jim Vollmuth for noticing, and pointing out, that Red was in desperate need of a front end alignment, and a couple of new tires. From her knock-kneed stance, she looked like she was trying to muscle her way along carrying the weight of a V-12 or something. I had concerns of a blow-out (and no jack!) somewhere out in the back-country of Hunterdon County for the rest of the day. We finished at The Hillbilly Hall in Hopewell, New Jersey in time for lunch. All in all, a wonderful day out with the Brits! Thank you, John Jennings and the MG Club.



Nine people in six cars made the drive out from the Wegman's Shopping Center on Route 202 South in Bridgewater, NJ to the Peddler's Village British Car Show on Saturday, October 19th. Ian & Sue Kessen (BT7), Steve & Lynn Jekogian (BJ8), Ralph Scarfogliero (MGA-V8),



Larry Gersten (AN5), Bill & Marge Smith (TR6), and George Crombie (AN9) met up at Wegman's around 9:00 AM or so for the approximately 25 mile drive south on Route 202 into PA for the show. There were perhaps 160 or more British cars on display. Some of the more interesting ones included: a beautiful blue Jag 420 4-door sedan; a 1971 Morris 1100; a 1935 Rolls Royce in original condition; 5 T-Series MGs; 4 E-Type Jags; 3 TR3s; 2 Jag 420s; and a Morgan in a pear tree... Oops, I kind of got carried away there for a moment. Also on the show field were a 1959 Morris Pick-up; a TVR; a 1964 Griffith; a green MG Midget; 2 Triumph Stags and quite a passel of Healeys, both big and small. Among the Big Healeys, Mike Alexis (green '67 BJ8), Steve Kahn (red '67 BJ8), Dave Wyher (red/black '67 BJ8), Ian Robinson (white/red '58 100-6), a white/black 3000 without a name, Steve Jekogian (red/black '65 BJ8), Ian Kessen (white/black '60 BT7), a white 3000 MKII without a name, and David Paul (red/white 3000 MKI) drove their cars. The Sprites were represented by: Dean Hedin (white '59 AN5), Ross Enders (yellow '69 AN9), Frank Cocciolone (yellow/green stripe '60 AN5), George Crombie (red '69 AN9), Larry Gersten (green '60 AN5), John Payne (red '59 AN5), Nick Ferrant (red '61 AN5), Mike Raupp (blue '59 AN5), Phil Nase (red '60 AN5), Tom



Brabson (white '65 Sprite), Randy Alkins (yellow '66 Sprite), and Gerry Kunkle (white '58 AN5). Also spotted on the lot, but arriving late was Ray Dunckley with his white BN4; and a green over tan BJ Series was seen driving slowly along the edge of the show field, only to disappear before I could get a good look at either it or its driver.



North Jersey members I spotted that day included: Bob Pense, Nick & Alice Ferrant, Steve & Lynn Jekogian, Ian & Sue Kessen, Larry Gersten, Ralph Scarfogliero, Bill & Marge Smith, and George Crombie.

The Austin-Healey (all years, all models) was the Featured Marque for this year.

Taking home hardware for the two Austin-Healey Classes were:

BIG HEALEY

- 1st Steve Jekogian Red/black BJ8
- 2nd Steve Kahn Red BJ8
- 3rd Dave Wyher Red/black BJ8
- 4th David Paul Red/white BT7
- 5th Ian Kessen White/black BT7

SPRITE

- 1st Phil Nase Red AN5
- 2nd Gerry Kunkle White AN5
- 3rd John Payne Red AN5
- 4th Larry Gersten Green AN5
- 5th Frank Cocciolone Yellow/green AN5

Next on the calendar of events for the North Jersey Region will be the November monthly meeting, which will be held on November 5th, at 7:00 PM at La Cucina in Denville. Primary topics will be voting in the volunteers to help steer the Region (Ian Kessen, President; Joe/Marge Costa, Treasurers; and Steve Feld, Newsletter). This really is an important meeting/function, so if you find that you can't make it, PLEASE call or e-mail Ian with your proxy vote. Also on tap will be the ongoing discussion/banter regarding the upcoming Holiday Party.

As always, be sure to check your e-Flashes from Ian to keep abreast of what's happening, where, and when...

Until next time, Drive British...and go topless!

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LONG ISLAND

By Paul Parfrey

The Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society's 12th Annual Cruise to the Light Car Show was held on Sept. 29th at Field 4 Robert Moses State Park on Fire Island. This is one of my favorite venues for a car show, a beautiful beach location with a ride out on the Ocean Parkway and back for those of us coming from the west. Proceeds benefit Fire Island Lighthouse and State Park Commission. Stu Smith, Tony and Kathy DiFrancesca, Mary Ann Sekelsky and Tedd Krummeck, and myself attended. We were joined by carburetor guru Joe Curto and his Morris Panel Van.

Rich Miot sent some photos of his car, showing his progress with its restoration. The most exciting news is that the car is now registered and we may see it on the road this coming spring. The car belonged to Vito and Alice Buccarelli of the North Jersey Region.

THE WAY RICH WAS MADE AWARE OF THE CAR ILLUSTRATES THE VALUE OF BELONGING TO A CAR CLUB. SIMPLY SAID, "HE HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE!"

Something that happened to me this week illustrates a truism of old car collecting. If every trip in an old car is an adventure, then keeping up with maintenance is a way to cut down on the excitement. What happened is especially relevant to owners of Sprites or any car with an A series Austin engine. I unearthed my '66 MG Midget to try and start it in preparation for a trip to the inspection station.



Healey group relaxes on Fire Island



Rich's new floors



Rich's BJ8

I successfully started the engine and ran it for a short while. After turning the engine off, I was greeted by a cloud of steam. After some investigation, the leak was found to be in the little by-pass hose between the head and the water pump. This hose is something out of sight, out of mind. I believe (?) I changed it when I built the engine 15 years ago, maybe... Luckily, it let go in my garage. The OE hose is ribbed like an accordion bellows and can be fitted without removing the head or water pump; \$3.95 from Moss. See photo. It seems it would be nearly impossible to fit a short piece of straight 1/2" heater hose without removing something so I, at least, kept an original one in the car. Still, after so many years, I forgot about the whole situation. So a question for you Sprite owners: when was that hose last changed? And, by the way, getting the two clamps on the hose was way more difficult than installing the hose.

Remember, no Flash issue in December. We scribes get a month off. See you in January.



The hose in question

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Fire Island Car Show

FOR SALE/WANTED

1967 Austin Healey 3000 MKIII Phase 2 For Sale. Owner since 1972. A solid driver, partially restored in 1983. Car is mostly original, except for sheet metal. The Maroon paint is a 70's era Ford truck color. Approximately 68,000 miles on the odometer. Have original painted wheels, spare tire, tool bag, boot cover and tonneau cover. Asking \$41,000. Call Tom at 610-657-0738 or email tmantz2310@gmail.com.



Numbers match according to the Heritage Trust certificate, as do the colors. Obviously, the chrome wheels were added when it was restored, but the tires are brand new. Everything works. I put the side exhaust on because I remember when I owned a 1964 BJ8 I bought new I was always crunching the exhaust and put side exhausts on that car to avoid the problem. It worked.

My reason for selling is that it simply sits in the garage; I rarely drive it even though it runs like a clock and is, as you know, loads of fun. It is time to let someone else enjoy it. It is located in Lancaster just east of the city. I want \$58,000. Conrad Kasperson ckasperson22@comcast.net

1964 Austin Healey Mk 3 (BJ8) Phase 2 for sale

Excellent driver- winner of many popular and judged show awards-most recent first place award in August. The car is finished in British Racing Green over Old English White with the total restoration completed in 2001. The package includes Five 72 spoke chrome wires, a new interior at restoration, along with top. Chrome luggage rack and seat belts. Boot cover and tonneau cover both in good condition. Original tools along with level knock off lever, spare doors and many rebuild parts. Asking \$49,000. Contact 215 361.7555 or email jjpayne3@verizon.net. Car located in southeastern Pennsylvania.



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(To the tune of "The Sounds of Silence")

Hello darkness my old friend
I've come to sit in you again
Because a wire softly loosening
Left its place while I was cruising
And my vision, that was guided by its light
Gave way to night
Thanks to the Scourge of Lucas

So many nights I've worked 'til dawn
Trying to find out what went wrong
'Neath the halo of a street lamp
I've jiggled wires 'til my fingers cramp
And my arms are scarred from the bright sparks
that split the air
And singed my hair
Thanks to the Scourge of Lucas

And in the sparking light I saw
10,000 MGs maybe more.
Engines cranking without starting

Switches clicking without switching
People starting drives that ended in a tow
And dreams laid low
Thanks to the Scourge of Lucas.

Fools say I do not know
How to fix a dynamo
Under the dash I can't quite reach you
Despite my cursing that I'll teach you
But my words, like burned-out lightbulbs fell
Into the hell
Of Lucas

And the experts bowed and prayed
To the manuals that they'd made
And the manuals gave dire warning
About the hazards of most everything
But the words of those prophets gave not one
single clue
What I could do
To end the Scourge of Lucas



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