

The FLASH



JANUARY 2024 | ISSUE 543



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AUSTIN HEALEY SPORTS & TOURING CLUB

JANUARY • 2024

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THE FLASH

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ON THE COVER
Grace Park sports car exhibition June 2023.

What's In The Flash

By Tom Mulligan

ENCOUNTER – Encounter 2024, hosted by the Philadelphia Region in Ocean City NJ. See the enclosed flyer and more history of the venue from the Encounter Chairs.

NEW CONTEST FOR 2024 – Would you like to win \$100 cash? Who wouldn't? The Flash trivia contest is on again for 2024, through the July issue, with a new theme. Check out the new contest terms, theme and the first question on the contest page and engage the whole family.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR – See Steve Jekogian's letter to the editor about the fabulous 71,000 sq ft AACA museum. Those who attended Encounter 2023 were treated to a private tour of one of the largest antique car museums in the country. To say the least it is hard to get your car/marque into the museum, but AHSTC did it!

FOR SALE / WANTED – This is a good time of the year to go through your stash of parts that might be more useful to others.

Just a reminder – your classified entries run for 3 issues as stated in the back page of *The Flash*. If still unsold, or not found, in that time frame let me know.

AUCTION REPORT – This month we look at 2 very different takes on the Healey collector market – a tribute 100S and a beautiful, first year, Nash-Healey. Both are rare and, apparently, difficult to price. Both were no-sales on Bring a Trailer. Check out the links, read the comments and find out why.





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PRESIDENTIAL RUMINATIONS

Steve Feld AHSTC President

By the time you read this, the 2023 holidays will be past, and the winter of 2024 will be upon us. Ann and I hope that all of you enjoyed the holiday season with friends and family. If you happen to be residing or vacationing in warmer and sunnier locations than those of us in the Northeast, relish your respite from snow and sleet! If you are up north, then now is the time to determine what needs done on your Healey or other LBC. Now is the time to accomplish what you've been putting off for far too long and get those nagging annoyances solved.

For me, I need to remedy a rear axle leak. I replaced the bearings, seals, and gaskets just a couple years ago but apparently didn't do the fix very well. So, I'm back to try again with hopefully better results. I think most of us have similar experiences of a repair not working and having to repeat it. However, such "joys" are part of the British car club experience and bring us together as we ask other members for their help and advice. As you go through your list of winter projects for your Healey, be sure to call upon other club members for help. What are you waiting for? Do it!

Elsewhere in this issue of *The Flash*, you should read about the special display of Austin Healeys at the Antique Automobile Club of America Museum in Hershey, PA. For a museum focused primarily on American cars, the display of our iconic British cars is quite the accomplishment. There is a dedicated room displaying four Austin Healeys (a 100 and 3000, and two Sprites – Bugeye and square body) as well as many items of regalia and memorabilia associated with our favorite marque. The display ends on April 12, 2024.

The club has organized a member visit to the Museum at 10AM on Saturday, February 24, 2024, (2/24/24!) to see this display. (Snow date: Sunday, March 10). The Club will pay for members' admissions that day. Lunch (on your own) will follow at a local restaurant. Even though many of us visited the Museum during Encounter 2023, this new Healey display clearly merits another visit by Austin Healey enthusiasts. This joint regional club activity also gives you a great opportunity to visit with other AHSTC members this winter.

Hope you can make it!



HARRISBURG

REGION

Pam Frazier

12/9/2023, 3-7 P.M., ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE DINNER.

Our annual Progressive Dinner was different from past dinners. On December 9, 2023, from 3-7 p.m., thirty Harrisburg Region members and guests gathered at George Wagman III's festively decorated Boundary Street Garage, York, PA, to enjoy a delicious dinner of Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Corn Bake, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, Filling, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce and Rolls.

A big thank you to our gracious and generous host George Wagman III who provided the Main Course, Yellow Cake with Coconut Icing, Drinks and the Venue. Thanks also to the members who brought Appetizers and Desserts.

After dinner, we gathered in front of the Christmas tree and fire (TV video) in a living room setup, to play Dirty Santa. Each person was instructed to bring a wrapped funny/gag gift to exchange.

Here are the rules for Dirty Santa. Make two sets of numbers. Each person draws a number from the first set. Then numbers are drawn from the second set. The first person (after much thought and deliberation) selects a gift, opens it and shows it to everyone. Person #2 goes through the same process and then has the option to either keep the gift or exchange (steal) it for a previously opened gift, and so on.

Don Schneider started the exchange and got a can of SPAM (not to be confused with email spam), with which we found out later Don did not want to part.

Jim Cox kept us in stitches with the great and entertaining job he did as Master of Ceremonies in administering the drawing of the numbers and keeping things moving along. (I thought to myself, "Jim would make a great used car salesman!")

Some of the more sought-after or unusual gifts were Bacon Band Aids, BugEyeGuy Dirty Engine Oil Root Beer (4 pack), Arlene's Spotted Dick (don't ask), and a pair of flamingo coffee mugs Jim Cox brought but regained as a result of his gift being stolen. Fortunately, the flamingo mugs were stolen away by Jules March (as her pool has a flamingo theme), leaving Jim with the much-desired Willie Nelson Chia Pet.

At the end, Don Schneider was given the opportunity to steal someone else's gift, which he declined, as he said his grandson likes SPAM.

Del Border had his BugEyeGuy Dirty Engine Oil Root Beer (4 pack) stolen in exchange for chocolate-covered cockroaches. Hope you enjoy those Del! Merry Christmas!

Members and guests in attendance: George Wagman



III and Rebecca Yount, Bob and Pam Preston, Don and Flora Schneider, Dave and Priscilla Hooper, Shawn and Tammy Miller, Kelby and Lisa Steele, Jim and Linda Cox, Fred and Donna Sherk, Brian Kopp, Paul and Dee Zimmerman, Rob Shingle and Jim Keener, Tim and Jules March, Bruce and Sue Hurley, Skip and Linda Hardy, Del Border, George Fishel and Pam Frazier.

Many thanks to all who helped in making the Progressive Dinner an enjoyable evening.

11/11/2023 - ANNUAL FALL BANQUET. Our Annual Fall Banquet was held Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023, at the Progress Grill in Harrisburg, PA, from 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Nineteen members attended, as follows: Bob and Pam Preston, George Wagman III and Rebecca Yount, Rob Shingle and Jim Keener, Paul and Dee Zimmerman, Joe and Barb Spear, Don and Flora Schneider, Fred and Sonia Bennett, Dave and Priscilla Hooper, Skip and Linda Hardy and Pam Frazier.

Progress Grill is famous for its delicious fresh Maryland crab cakes. The menu choices were New York Strip Steak, Broiled Fresh Maryland Crab Cakes or Broiled Breast of Chicken with Crab Cake. All dinners came with a garden salad, baked potato, and a choice of Creme Brulee, Cheesecake or Peanut Butter Pie for dessert. I thoroughly enjoyed the Broiled Breast of Chicken with Crab Cake, followed by the Peanut Butter Pie.

Healeys on Display at AACA Museum, Hershey, PA - Healeys of some members (Steve Jerkogian, Fred Sherk, Don Sneider and Pam Preston) and memorabilia are currently on display now through the middle of April 2024, at the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA. The Harrisburg Region is planning an event to tour the Museum to see the display sometime in February or March 2024.

Our Treasurer Priscilla Hooper asked me to mention two cards of thanks recently received by the Harrisburg Region. The first card was from the Schreiber Center for Pediatric Development for the \$5,270, donation that was raised from the Charity Auction at Encounter.

The second card of thanks was from Feeding America Hunger Council for the donation of \$1,304, that was raised by the Gerry Coker "100" Pin Raffle. Thank you, Jennifer Payne, for this silver Healey pin that you so generously donated to the raffle.

Special thanks to Shawn and Tammy Miller, Jennifer Payne and all who participated to make these donations possible.

I would like to give a special shout out of thanks to our President Pam Preston and the First Gentleman Bob Preston, Vice President Scott Brockman, Treasurer Priscilla Hooper and outgoing FLASH Scribe Fred Bennett for their great service to AHSTC in 2023.

**ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HARRISBURG REGION,
BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY,
HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR IN 2024.**



By Randy Alkins

PHILADELPHIA REGION

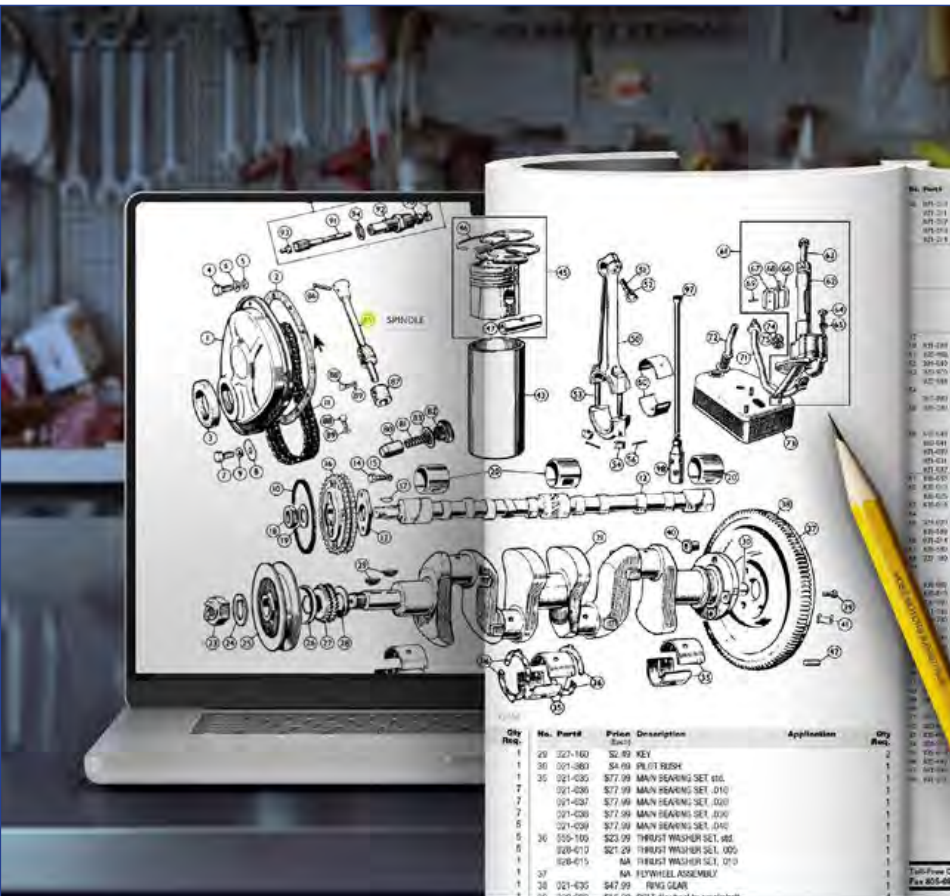
We are experiencing early winter temperatures, and we hope for a not-too-cold winter. Not much is happening so far in December as most cars have been winterized and put to sleep. Hopefully, April will come quickly with warmer temperatures.

Upcoming events that we plan on holding include Saturday, January 6, 2024, when we will attempt, weather/road conditions pending, the first ever Philadelphia region Top-Down Polar Run. We will make it of reasonable length and make sure the end is someplace warm. We plan to meet at the Manhattan Bagel in Warrington at 11 a.m.

Jumping to Saturday, January 13, 2024, we will hold our After Holiday Party at the home of Steve and Zara Wilcox, 6600 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, 19119. Arrival time is 6:30 p.m., with the catered dinner served shortly after. In addition to the dinner, wine, beer and soft drinks will be provided. Guests are welcome to bring a dessert or appetizer, and if you prefer something other than beer or wine, BYOB. Please RSVP to rsott9@gmail.com no later than Friday, January 5, so a final count can be made.

After the meal, we will hold our White Elephant Gift Exchange. If you would like to participate, please bring a moderately-priced gift to enter into the exchange.

Mark your calendars for Encounter 2024, Back to the Boardwalk in Ocean City, NJ. The dates will be September 15 to 19, at the Flander's Hotel. It promises to be a fun-filled experience. 



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North Jersey

By George Crombie

Welcome to the next New Year (again, and again... sort of like Groundhog Day, but not). It is still last year (I think) as I write this on December 10th and try to catch up all the loose ends that are fit to print so I can start fresh next year. Or is it still this year? Let's try for the beginning of 2024 with a clean slate and desk. That ought to work.

November 14th saw the final scheduled monthly club meeting at The Vintage Tavern in Gillette, NJ with more than the required quorum of members present to conduct the "official" business of voting in the slate of officers for the calendar year of 2024. Dang! (Yes, I am aware that there are ladies present, so I must edit my vocabulary as much as I can). That sounds so formal, doesn't it? Steve Feld was re-elected unanimously for his fifth or sixth "I suppose I can do it just one more time" term as President; Larry Gersten was a shoo-in for another year of keeping the club's check book in, well, check; and I got drafted into signing up for another hitch hacking out these monthly babble sessions. The attendance at the November meeting had Steve & Ann Feld, Jim Vollmuth (BJ8), Tom Milligan, Bob Pense, Paul Olson, Larry Gersten, Ian Kessen, Bob Jankowitz, Dennis Meehan, Vickie Hurst (MG), Patrick Venezia, Paul Rust, Allen Rosenberg, John Moore, and George, Denise, & Sarah Crombie.

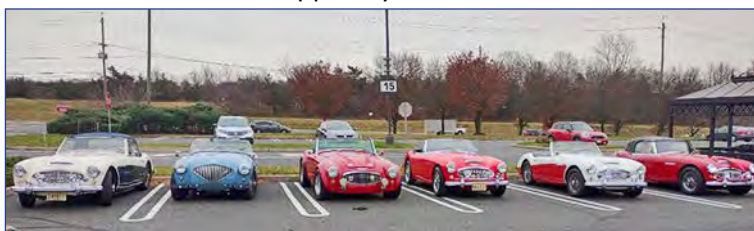
Some of the topics covered at the meeting, aside from the all-important, and riveting annual election of officers, the wrap-ups of the Fall Tour hosted by Tom and Pam Mulligan, and the Delaware River Bridge Crossing (a few times) Tour arranged by Allen and Ginny Rosenberg. Both tours garnered multiple two-thumbs up by participants. Members were reminded that the Holiday Party would be held on December 2nd at Steve & Lynn Jekogian's home in Chester, NJ. The 9th Annual Polar Run was slated for Saturday, December 9th. Larry & Diane had been off to visit The Healey Museum in the Netherlands and had a very enjoyable time there. The next monthly Club Meeting is on tap for January 9th, 2024. On the Corporate Level, the club is looking to rent a storage unit to house Encounter supplies in an effort to help keep the necessary items for operating Encounter in one place when not in use. Speaking of which, another Trivia Contest will be introduced to help promote Encounter 2024 in Ocean City, NJ this coming September. Keep your eyes peeled for your chance to enter. Also, there are (and will be through April 2024) four Healeys on display at the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA. If you get the chance, take a cruise on out that way to have a look. And poof; just like that, the meeting and the month of November were in the history books.

December 2nd saw around 50 people gathered at Steve & Lynn Jekogian's home in Chester for the Region's Annual Holiday Party. Attending with Steve and Lynn Jekogian (naturally; you don't for one moment think that they would turn over the keys to their home to anyone in this crowd without adult supervision, do you? Ah, nope; I didn't think so) were the Felds, Rosenbergs, Smiths (A & M), Hyzers, Kaltnecker, Jankowitizes, Meehans, Dapirans, Marinos, Kessens, Baumanns (J & D), Vollmuths, Smiths (B & M), Moores, Bob "TVR" Steffens, Van Ness, Art Herkomer, Vickie Hurst, Venezia, Henrys, Paul Olson, Rusts, Ralph & Vera, Richard Ippoliti, Theo & Lina Padavano, Mulligans, and the Crombies. If you can figure this out, more power to you! A great time was had by all, and we even left the place still standing.





The following Saturday, December 9th, the North Jersey Region ran its 9th annual Polar Run to help folks close out the year and get into the spirit of the cold season by taking a drive in the chilly morning air. Sixteen hardy souls scattered around eight vehicles (six Healeys and two BJ9s) met up at Wegman's on Route 202 South in Bridgewater, NJ around 10 am for a departure time of 10:30. The day started off a little on the milder side, considering the low temperature readings this area had experienced the previous couple of weeks, with the departure temps in the mid-40s, and a sky laden with heavy clouds. Fortunately, the clouds had been well trained, and managed to hold their collective bladders until the next day, giving us a pleasant and warm day to frolic along the back roads of southwestern Somerset and a few pieces of Hunterdon Counties. Sarah and I led this merry little band in our BN2. We were followed, in no particular order, by Ian & Sue Kessen (BT7), Patrick Henry (Healey Sebring), Patrick & Lauren Venezia (BJ8), Steve Feld & Rudy Hyzer (BT7), Jim & Corrine Vollmuth (BJ8), Frank Dapiran and his long-time friend, Charlie, with Allen & Ginny Rosenberg and Denise Crombie pulling clean-up duties at the tail end. It seems like just after we got started, I noticed that I had picked up a tail, and for the next 39 and a half miles, I kept trying to shake the guy. I went faster; he went faster. I slowed down, ditto; he slowed down. I went left; so did he. I pulled into the restaurant, and he was still there. About that time, just as I was really beginning to get nervous, I realized I was being followed by Ian and Sue Kessen and all the rest. Oh yeah; Polar Run! That's right, that was today! Next time, I must clean my glasses before we start one of these things. We had a great drive, covering just under 40 miles in about 70 minutes, with not much interference from the public at large. Lunch was at Thirsty's Restaurant and Tavern on Route 202 North in Branchburg. With our appetites and merrymaking, we made Thirsty's day. Quite a few of the locals stopped by to chat and check out the cars. Thanks, guys, for keeping Sarah and me company.



Next up is the first club meeting of 2024, on

**JANUARY 9TH AT
THE VINTAGE
TAVERN IN
GILLETTE, NJ.**

I hope to see many of you sometime next year, either at a car show, picnic, club meeting, or on tour.



Long Island REGION

By Paul Parfrey

By the time anyone reads this, the holiday season will be over, and we will be about ten days into 2024. But as I write it, trying to make the deadline of Dec. 15 which was moved up from the usual Dec. 25, holiday preparations are still in full swing. Hanukkah has just ended but we have Christmas and New Year's to look forward to. It is now about 9:30 PM so I should be able to finish in time.

Bob Maichin recently sent me a photo of my car from 17 years ago. Those were the good old days when I was still able to drive it. Cathy Preston recently called to tell me she met Bob Shaffsick and saw his Healey – with a hardtop. During our conversation, she mentioned that no one else in the region has a car with a hardtop. I had to say that I have one. I guess since it doesn't leave the garage anymore, it's hard to picture it. It has a different front shroud on it than in the photo due to an accident. Now that Bob has relocated to Long Island, I hope we will see more of him but he's a hard man to get in touch with.

While looking for something or other lately, I came across a NY Times article proclaiming the End of Car Culture. Notice the open car sans hood in the foreground. The hot rod next to it has "Blue Beatnik" behind the door. What looks like a dent behind the rear window is a tear in the paper. It seems to me that it is the end of car culture. When I turned 17, the two things I wanted were my driver's license and then my own car. My younger brother ditto. Three out of my four children were interested in cars and wanted a car but only as personal transportation. They have no feeling for cars otherwise. (Though I must say that my youngest daughter, after initial hesitation, found driving my Midget on country roads to be a blast, and even drove it in gymkhanas on Long Island. Now she is too busy transporting her children here and there, and herself to the LI RR station to enjoy just driving an old sports car.) My oldest offspring who wasn't interested in cars early on, now is into Cadillacs and owns a 69 Coupe de Ville, and he is also a member of the Cadillac LaSalle Club. I guess one out of four isn't bad. I have come to appreciate Cadillacs now and receive old issues of the Cadillac car club magazine from my son.

In the last issue we had photos of Frank Filangeri's Lotus 23B. This month I've included some specs which he sent me. It has a 1600 engine with a Cosworth head. It makes just a bit over 200hp and weighs 980 lbs. fully laden but less driver. Mates to a 5-speed quick change dog box. Runs Avon race tires on 13" wheels.

I hope you all enjoyed your December festivities. Hope to get together soon. 🇬🇧



THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2013

The End of Car Culture

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S ambitious goals to curb the United States' greenhouse gas emissions, unveiled last week, will get a fortuitous assist from an incipient shift in American behavior: recent studies suggest that Americans are buying fewer cars, driving less and getting fewer licenses as each year goes by.

That has left researchers pondering a fundamental question: Has America passed peak driving?

The United States, with its broad expanses and suburban ideals, had long been one of the world's prime car cultures. It is the birthplace of the Model T; the home of Detroit; the place where Wilson Picklett immortalized "Mustang Sally" and the Beach Boys, "Little Deuce Coupe."

But America's love affair with its vehicles seems to be cooling. When adjusted for population growth, the number of miles driven in the United States peaked in 2005 and dropped steadily thereafter, according to an analysis by Doug Short of Advisor Perspectives, an investment research company. As of April 2013, the number of miles driven per person was nearly 9 percent below the peak and equal to where the country

NEWS ANALYSIS
BY ELISABETH ROSENTHAL
A reporter who covers environment and health for The New York Times.

Fewer Young Drivers... is the percentage of 16- to 20-year-olds. Teenagers in the



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Brandywine

Ernie Leser

REGION

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR MEMBERS.

Hard to believe another year has passed. Luckily a new year is upon us with new adventures. Hope it is a healthy and prosperous one.

BRANDYWINE REGION OFFICERS FOR 2024

PRESIDENT: CHUCK OTT

TREASURER: PETE ROBERTS

EVENTS: DAVE EHRET

NEWSLETTER: ERNIE LESER

MEMBERSHIP: OPEN

Our Regional Elections of Officers was held on Saturday November 18th at the Deer Park Tavern in Newark, DE. Our meeting was at noon, but it turned out that Brunch was 10 am till 2 pm. So, a round of their "specials" was ordered – mimosas and bloodymarys. After a hearty lunch, the much-contested elections were carried out. The "specials" apparently calm contested elections and in the end the current officers were re-elected – imagine that. The position of membership chairperson is open. This person welcomes new members and helps to bring in new members, as well as sending reminders to lapsed members. Please let Chuck Ott know if you would be interested in this position. Attending the meeting were: Jeff Lanno, Rich Banta, Jim Martin, Joan and Ernie Leser, Chuck Ott, Pete Roberts, Dee Caffrey, and Dave Maule.

The annual **BRANDYWINE CHRISTMAS PARTY** was held on Saturday December 9th at the home of Jeff and Lisa Lanno in Wilmington, DE. The Lannos had recently moved just across the PA – DE line from their previous location in Pennsylvania. Their home in north Wilmington was all decorated for Christmas. Lisa had prepared a delicious buffet while Jeff was in charge of the libations. Taking part in the festivities were: Pete, Todd and Trish Roberts, Dee Caffrey, Rich and Sue Banta, Chuck and Sue Ott, Nigel and Edy Smart, Buzz and Paula Marshall, Ernie, and Joan Leser, and of course Jeff and Lisa.

It was good to catch up with everyone's holiday plans



Elections at the Deer Park Tavern.



Christmas festivities.



and what was anticipated for the new year. Thank you, Lisa, and Jeff, for a warm and happy event.

Our next meeting is in January to plan our region's activities for 2024. This will be held at the Deer Park Tavern in Newark, DE on Thursday Jan. 18th at 12 noon. This is your chance to get your event suggestions scheduled.

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Lehigh Valley

Bruce Lawrence



FLEETWOOD HILLCLIMB FONDLY REMEMBERED

Lehigh Valley Region member Ken Weidner grew up in Fleetwood PA, a small picturesque rural town in Berks County, about twenty-five miles Southwest of Allentown. It was Ken who provided The Flash with this story and accompanying pictures of a little-known historical event held in Fleetwood involving Austin Healeys and other classics; an event from years gone by, that few of Fleetwood's younger citizens will remember, but which nonetheless may be of interest to many of our Lehigh Valley Region members.

During the post-WWII years when driving English sport cars became all the rage, many owners enjoyed weekend rides, where they could drop the tops, open the throttles, and sometimes compete in local, small-town car rallies. Pennsylvania which has many "over-the-hill and through the dale" rural roads became especially well known for car rallies known as hill climbs.

Beginning in 1961 and continuing each summer thereafter for more than a decade, Fleetwood held its Hillclimb rally on a narrow, unusually winding route leading up a hill and heading south out of town. The mile-long, dirt-road course rose 350 feet from start to finish. Word spread among U.S. car rally enthusiast of this challenging course in Pennsylvania. Sports cars and drivers from all over the East Coast came to compete in what became known as "The Fleetwood Hillclimb" (Our own Ken and Cindy Beck recall participating in this Hillclimb.)

From his childhood, Ken Weidner fondly remembers riding his bicycle with his friends up to the Hillclimb's pre-rally organizing park to take in the many brightly colored sport cars, and talk to the drivers, all the while covering his ears from the scream of over-revved engines. From the car park, Ken would then head up to the starting line to watch the cars speed off one at a time to complete the course. Times were recorded and Ken's dad helped to note the best times and speeds, with fastest times crossing the line in just under 50 seconds. Ken's mother also helped out by providing food and beverages for the many drivers and spectators. Ken recalls that colorful programs, listing all cars and drivers, could be purchased for a quarter. (He says collectors can still find old Fleetwood Hillclimb programs occasionally on EBay.) By 1972, new housing developments were sprouting up in Fleetwood including along the Hillclimb race route, and with the added civic growth, the well-known dirt road was to be paved over at last. Consequently, the annual summer Hillclimb was paused, and unfortunately this well-loved car enthusiast's tradition was never restarted.

In 2023, the citizens of Fleetwood celebrated their 150th anniversary of the town's incorporation in 1873. To mark the occasion, the



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town organized a big celebration; including holding a town-wide dance with a Nashville country band, and a carnival would be held in the park. The celebration included a parade winding its way through the town center. In keeping with the event's historical theme, Ken's childhood friend Tim Williams suggested that a parade float would be a good way to honor the memory of the Fleetwood Hillclimb. Ideally, the Hillclimb float would feature a classic sports car representative of the original Hillclimb rally cars.

Ken tells us that while most of his old school chums dreamt of buying American muscle cars when they were old enough, Ken instead yearned for a British sports car like the ones that competed in his town's Hillclimbs. Years later Ken fulfilled his dream and purchased a classic 1960 Austin Healey Sprite, which he still loves to drive today. Naturally, Ken's classic Sprite would be a perfect addition to the Hillclimb float. On parade day, it was decorated with black race numbers and its headlights were tape over for an authentic rally look. Posters were mounted on the float mapping out the Fleetwood Hillclimb route. Other signs listed the fastest course times achieved, and vintage photos of the race were enlarged and attached to the back of the float. Hay bales and checkered flags completed the vintage look.

Parade day weather in September 2023 was perfect, and the route was lined with young and old alike. As Ken and his prized Sprite sped by atop the float, some fans in recalling the old rally days, yelled out, "We remember Hillclimb" or "Bring the Hillclimb Back!" Ken's elderly mother was there to cheer on the Hillclimb float, much like she cheered on the actual rally cars 60 years ago. Of course, Ken tossed candy to the youngsters in the crowd so they too would have their own Hillclimb memories. A great time was had by all!



Spectators Heading for the Fleetwood Hillclimb.
Note the Bugeye Sprite on Trailer in background.



MGA and Driver Preparing for the Fleetwood Hillclimb.



More Cars Lining up to Begin the Fleetwood Hillclimb.



Ken and His Sprite on the Fleetwood Hillclimb Float.



ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

The LV Region annual Holiday Party held this last December 16 at Fegley's Brew Works in Bethlehem was a fun outing. Bethlehem city center always draws big crowds during Christmas holidays; this year was no exception. Unusually warm weather meant that the streets around Fegley's teemed with both young and old, all seemingly intent on creating an outsized festive evening. Carolers harmonized the usual songs while a base trombone blared noisily somewhere off in the distance. All in good holiday fun!

After waiting in line for our banquet room to be prepared, LV Region members sat down to a delicious meal of burgers, fries, broiled salmon, and other spicy sports bar menu items, all washed down with a variety of Fegley's own brew pub brews. After dinner, President Ken Beck gave a short holiday greeting before the business at hand. Being as the Holiday Party was our last formal club meeting for 2023, we voted on the previously announced slate LV Region club officers for 2024. The following individuals were elected by acclamation:

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VICE PRESIDENT
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Letter to the Editor

AHSTC SPECIAL EXHIBIT AT AACA MUSEUM IN HERSHEY

Steve Jekogian

Those who attended Encounter 2023 in Hershey this August were treated to a private tour of one of the largest antique car museums in the country.

The AACA museum is a 71,000 square foot three floor museum in Hershey filled with the most unique, special, and interesting cars in America. To say the least it is hard to get your car/marque into the museum, but AHSTC did it.

Fred Bennett who is a volunteer at the museum, Fred Sherk and the Harrisburg region, worked with AACA museum curator Stan Sipko and Rob Kain for a special exhibition of the Austin-Healey Marque, that opened November 18th, 2023, and will close April 20th, 2024.

The original plan was to have the exhibition in 2022 to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the introduction of the 100. However, COVID changed the schedule.

A special gallery is dedicated entirely to the Healey marque and houses four Healeys that showcase the marque from the initial Austin-Healey 100 to a late model 3000, and an early Sprite Bugeye to a square body Sprite.

The gallery has descriptions about each of the car models and their relevance to the Marque.

In addition, the room is filled with Healey memorabilia, posters, and pictures that bring the marque to life. The items on display illustrate the impact the marque had on the consumer car landscape in the 1950's and 60's.

There is a good chance "you" are in the museum also, or a picture of you and your car. What does that mean? Well, you must go to the museum to find out.

The Austin-Healey Exhibition is great to see and experience and the club will be hosting an event at the museum, so stayed tuned for the date and time.

Editor's note: AHSTC members Steve and Lynn Jekogian (AH3000 MKIII 1965), Pam and Bob Preston (AH Sprite 1966), Don and Flora Schneider (AH100 1956), and Fred Sherk (AH Bugeye Sprite 1959) generously loaned their cars to the museum for this special display. 



OCNJ

ENCOUNTER 2024

Back to the Boardwalk

Ocean City, New Jersey
September 15-18, 2024



Scene from the Encounter 2019 show
on the Ocean City, N.J., Boardwalk

ENCOUNTER
RETURNS to the
Historic Flanders Hotel
SITE OF ENCOUNTER 2019

- Enjoy condo stay with kitchen
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- Driving events down the block
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SHOW YOUR HEALEY ON THE BOARDWALK!

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ENCOUNTER 2024

Leo & Trish Kob

THE FLANDERS CELEBRATES 100 YEARS IN OC-NJ

On November 18, a gala was held at the Flanders to celebrate its centennial. Last month we summarized its roller-coaster history in announcing it to be the venue for our 2024 Encounter. Following is the long-standing tale of Emily, its own resident ghost, known in the early years as the “Lady in White.”

As the story unfolded, she was thought to be the spirit of a young woman in her early 20’s with long brown hair, who wanders the hotel’s Hall of Mirrors in her bare feet.

She is reportedly a cheerful apparition, but has been accused of playing with door locks, unscrewing light bulbs, and making doors swing aimlessly. Incidents have been reported of hearing a girl singing in the hallways and seeing a white gown disappearing around the corners of corridors.

Fortunately, no evidence of her has been detected in the one-bedroom condominiums reserved for our use during Encounter 2024. Ocean City ghost tour guides say Emily was the girlfriend of a World War I soldier who never returned from the European Theater.

Emily’s Ocean Room Restaurant in the Flanders keeps her name before the hotel’s staff. This casual eatery will be open for breakfast and lunch during Encounter 2024.

Emily’s portrait- painted by artist Tony Troy based on staff and guest descriptions- and an expanded story can be found on the second floor’s Hall of Mirrors.

So, mark your calendar to take the plunge in OCNJ for Encounter: September 15-19, 2024!!! The Popular Car Show will again be held on the boardwalk. And don’t forget to dig up, dust off, and wax those skim and boogie boards!!! 



THE FLASH ENCOUNTER 2024 CONTEST

HAVE SOME FUN AND WIN \$100 CASH!

This year's Contest theme will be ***"Celebrities Who Have Owned a Healey."***

Starting with this (January, 2024) issue of The Flash, each month's issue through July, leading up to Encounter 2024, will feature a clue.

The clue will be published on this page each month. Click the link to the AHSTC website beneath the clue and provide your guess on that web page*. The answer and the names of those members who guessed the correct celebrity will also be published here in subsequent months, along with a new clue for the following month.

AHSTC members in good standing, who correctly guess the celebrity will be entered into a drawing to determine the cash prize winner. The more months you enter the correct answer, the greater your chances of winning.

So, open each issue of The Flash, share the question with your family, and join the fun.

This month's Clue: ***"He was tall, dark, handsome, and dirty, and he owned a Healey."***

www.austin-healey-stc.org/contest.html

The answers for this month's question must be entered by **January 25**.
There is only one correct answer for each clue.

Directors and Officers of AHSTC are not eligible to win.

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APR09

WANTED



PARTS WANTED

I'm looking for two of the Smiths gauge mounting brackets with the extra bracket for the bulb holder as shown in the attached image.

Contact Bob Ott:

email: rsott9@gmail.com

cell: 215-896-9874.

A quick look back.



Encounter 2019, Healeys driving onto the boardwalk in Ocean City, NJ.

AUCTION REPORT

By Tom Mulligan

I have often wondered how the value of “tribute” cars, of any kind, is determined and priced. I guess the simple answer is whatever the market will bear.

This alloy-bodied 1955 BN1, on Bring a Trailer, caught my attention for just that reason. It appears to be a very nice build with a Cape International alloy body and significant engine work to recreate the 100S specifications.

As to value vs price – that hasn’t been settled conclusively yet. This car was also offered for sale on BaT in August 2022 and was a reserve not met (RNM) at \$86k. It again failed to sell during this auction, in October of this year, and was an RNM at \$90k. So, the market seems to have established its value, but the seller appears to disagree. I am sure the cost to build this car far exceeds the offers made to date.

The commenters seemed to like the car very much and there wasn’t much nit picking as the car was recognized for what it is. See what you think after reading the comments at:

[ALLOY-BODIED 1955 AUSTIN-HEALEY 100 BN1 FOR SALE ON BAT AUCTIONS - CLOSED ON OCTOBER 20, 2023 \(LOT #124,639\) | BRING A TRAILER](#)



This 1951 Nash-Healey was offered on Bring a Trailer earlier this year. It appears to be a beautiful example of a first-year car, in a great color combination. However, it was an RNM at \$105k.

This car caught my attention because it seems to me that more of these have appeared at local shows in the last few years, and they are very well received by the spectators and other show participants. Many of the commenters placed the value at closer to \$200k, yet the Sports Car Market auction sale guide puts the 1951 model at a high range of ~\$125k. Perhaps the replacement engine hurt the sale. In my opinion, the seller could have benefited from a better presentation and more (and better) photos, as some commented. Presentation matters in on-line auctions. See what you think.

[1951 NASH-HEALEY ROADSTER FOR SALE ON BAT AUCTIONS - CLOSED ON MAY 19, 2023 \(LOT #107.130\) | BRING A TRAILER](#)





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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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