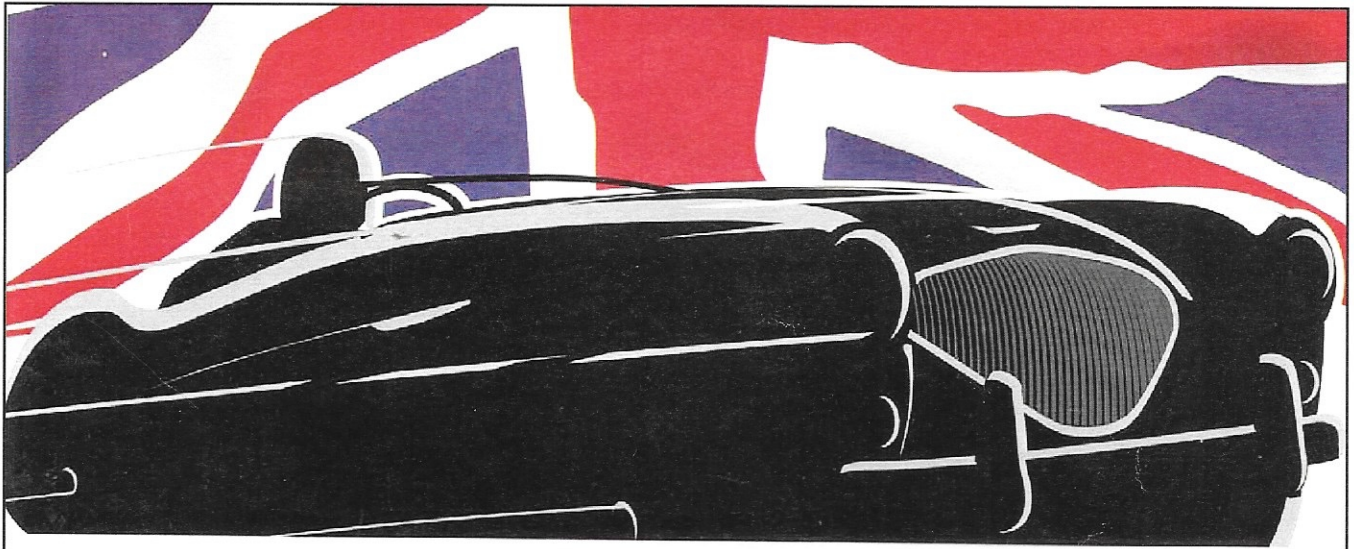


# The FLASH 30



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ISSUE 359



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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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	<b>President:</b> Dave Hooper 717-938-5368 dhooper11@comcast.net	Don & Dot Hoffer 717-761-1254 hoffer57@comcast.net	3rd Tuesday; 7:30 PM San Carlos/"The Hop" In York
	<b>LEHIGH VALLEY REGION</b> <b>President:</b> Mike Bradley 610-282-4876 mkb1983@aol.com	Jerry Cropp 610-777-5257 g.cropp@att.net	3rd Monday; 7:30 PM Call for location.
	<b>PHILADELPHIA REGION</b> <b>President:</b> Ray Donovan 215-699-8355 rjdisi@aol.com	Jennifer Payne 215-361-7555 jjpayne3@netzero.net	Call for date, time Mariano's, Lansdale, PA. Call Ray for directions.
	<b>BRANDYWINE REGION</b> <b>President:</b> Chuck Ott 302-378-7287 chucknsueo@yahoo.com	Ernie Leser 410-398-7308 ernstleser@verixion.net	See region article or call for date, time and location.
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## RAMBLINGS

By Nigel Smart



Well is it Spring or Winter? It's really hard to know with the weather biting back like it's been doing lately. Still, it's given me lots of reasons to get into the garage and focus on the myriad of projects that inevitably buildup as one tries to keep these old cars running!

It only seems like yesterday that I bought my BJ8, but it is in fact almost 16 years. Since that time the habit has infected me hard and those that have seen my garage have watched the craziness multiply over the ensuing decade and a half!

NEWS! - Not for the purest, but definitely for modified enthusiasts, I see AH Spares of the UK are marketing . . . Fuel Injection devises for the Austin Healey!

I'm sure DMH would have jumped at this if it had been available in the 60's and Geoff Healey would have been running the competition Healeys to be even faster. Go look at the website because the conversion looks relatively straight forward.

The car show season is just about here and the sequence of events at Carisle etc. is ready to

bounce into action. I'm sure you are all as itchy as I am to get around those flea markets for bits, tools and general supplies.

Recent fun at the Smart Garage: Replacing the bushings etc. on the A-arms and new front springs is not a fun job. Having struggled for ages to get the corroded bushings etc. out of one A-arm piece I took the advice of Rick Broder and focused my butane burner on the job.

Assisted with a fan and gas mask (real Nosh Mask) I used heat to remove most of the infringing rubber and then used my electric hacksaw to cut the ends off the skid and bolt. Aircraft easing oil also provided lubrication and extra combustion during the process—and yes I did have a trusty (new) extinguisher with me! The smell was awful! Anyway, new rubber, new bolts and hardware (with Nylock nuts instead of (old pins) work fine. Also, I recommend old screwdrivers as guides for the pins as one jacks up the car on the new springs so you get a smooth location—otherwise you'll spend hours of frustrating endeavor and skinned knuckles. Oh yes, and air tools are a must to save your hands, arms and temper! Haha.

Happy motoring.  
Nigel

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The people who went to Snowmass ran into Healeys in several states (even found one sight-seeing at some hot springs in Yellowstone National Park) and discovered clubs in North Texas and Oregon whose members brought some fine examples of the cars. Joan submitted a detailed diary of her trip and the Rallye to the Rockies with Paul Wronski to the newsletter which was published in August. They were traveling with Healeys from Washington and Virginia and met members of other clubs along the route who offered assistance and otherwise treated them royally. The Morrisons had the dubious honor of setting up and running the Regalia Store at the event with a lot of help from the AHSTC contingent and a few others. The store was a huge success and made a serious contribution to the financial success of the week long event.

One by-product of the enthusiasm of the International Meet was a letter by Carolyn Thompson relative to initiating a North American Austin Healey Club. The subject had come up on several occasions in the past but there had never been such a concentrated forum in which to pursue the idea. Carolyn met with all the club representatives at Snowmass and then published an open letter in all the newsletters with a plea to the individual members. AHSTC Board discussed the subject and decided to get feedback from the membership and hold off on the issue until additional information was available from Carolyn and the other organizers.

Right on the heels of the International meet came ENCOUNTER hosted by Philadelphia and held in the historic Valley Forge area. The overall event had a Philadelphia theme, which was a little different but still retained the cars at the center of attraction. Even though ENCOUNTER publicity was held to a minimum so as not to adversely affect the International Meet, the turnout was excellent with a good showing by all of the AHSTC and AHCA regions on the East Coast. In fact, AHCA members from South Carolina showed up en masse and practically walked away with all the car trophies. It was obvious, to the relief of the Harrisburg group, that other regions were capable of hosting an ENCOUNTER and North Jersey volunteered to co-host the 1984 event with Long Island.

1982 came to an end with a lot of activity within the club. John Morrison resigned as the Corporate President after six years in the office and was replaced by George Null. Harrisburg agreed to host the '83 ENCOUNTER in the Lancaster area. New officers for 1983 included region presidents Carol Hodgman (Long Island), Joe Pepe (Philadelphia), Steve Jekogian (North Jersey), Don Olsen (Harrisburg), Bobbie Jezerowski (Western PA), Bob Messinger (Lehigh Valley), Sean O'Neil (Brandywine) and corporate officers Bill Bates (Newsletter Editor), Joe Pepe (VP Membership), Mike Haran (Secretary), and Priscilla Hooper as Treasurer. Sometime during 1982, the Pittsburgh region began calling itself Western Pennsylvania which was a little more descriptive of the territory serviced.

Another change occurred at the end of '82 which affected all the membership – the responsibility for maintaining the membership roster which was assumed by Joe Pepe of Philadelphia. John Morrison had been doing that task along with several others but could not continue. In the changeover of the computers, an error was made and the entire list was almost lost. However, by March of 1993, the list was sorted out and the labels for the newsletter were being printed properly.

Philadelphia disappeared from the newsletter for two or three months in 1983 due to some confusion over who the editor really was. Armand Gersbach finally picked up the gauntlet and finished out the year for the region.

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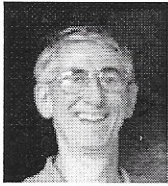
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## BRANDYWINE

By Ernie Leser




The Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> "Pizza at Pete's" event at Pete Robert's house in Downingtown was well attended in spite of the previous day's snow-ice storm. In fact, Penn-DOT coincidentally provided a huge Caterpillar road grader to plow the road ahead of us. It was slow going, but safety first! Dee kept an excellent assortment of Pizzas coming out of the oven while Pete had stocked the refrigerator well beforehand. Several tours were conducted both in Pete's new three car garage and in his basement restoration shop. As is well known by Encounter attendees, Pete's Healey collection is pristine, and his several 100's and his BJ8 are excellent examples of professionally restored vehicles. The cars served as quite an inspiration for some future Healey owners that were present, namely my own son Michael and Tom Jaagus's son Tom. Thank you Dee and Pete for a great event!

The date of our April tech session has been changed to the 21<sup>st</sup> (vs. the 28<sup>th</sup>) by request of George Moore who is the sponsor. George will be going over body work techniques at his shop in Linwood. More on this in next month's article.

May is loaded with car shows – must be in anticipation of good weather. The Lewes British Motor car Show in Lewes, Delaware starts off the month on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>, followed by Carlisle Import on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The "Brits are Back" show in Fort Washington, PA is the Saturday before Memorial Day. Hopefully all of you will have your cars ready to roll, and can partake in some of these shows. May 26<sup>th</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup> is "Drive Your British Car Week" in which we all can partake.

Our June event will be a tour to the Chesapeake Bay area. More details in next month's Flash. Happy Healeying!


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### 2007 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- APRIL.** TECH Session. Topic, time and place open.
- MAY, Sat. 5th.** Lewes British Car Show. Lewes, Delaware.
- MAY, Sat. 19th.** Carlisle Import Auto Show, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.
- JUNE.** Tour to the Chesapeake Bay area with lunch or dinner. Details TBD.
- JULY.** Open for suggestions.
- AUGUST 9, 10, 11th.** Encounter 2007. Parsippany, NJ.
- SEPTEMBER, Sat. 8th.** Annual Crab Crawl and Feast. Tour along Rt. 9 to the Boondocks.
- OCTOBER, Sat. 6th.** Brandywine Region Picnic. Location TBD.
- NOVEMBER, Thurs. 15th, 7 PM.** Election of officers for 2008. Matilda's Restaurant, Rt. 896, Newark, DE.
- DECEMBER, Sat. 1st, 6 PM.** Christmas Party. Details TBD.

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## LEHIGH VALLEY

By Jerry Cropp



I'm sorry to report that our regular newsletter editor has once again tried the extreme to get out of writing a newsletter article. This time he claims to have a problem with swelling of his feet. After another of his Caribbean vacations he's come down with swelling that leaves him unable to walk. As he states (It's like having basketballs for feet). Again something we take for granted. Worse than that if you could get in a Healey you'd be heel and toeing all three pedals with one foot while trying to figure out where to put the other foot.

Seriously Jerry has been a real help with the region duties and we hope this gets resolved soon. Send a card or give him a call to make his day a little better. Jerry Cropp 68 WEDGE LN, READING, PA 19607-331.

Some 7 or 8 loyal members attended the St. Patrick's Day cum Lehigh Valley Regional Meeting on March 12.

President Mike Bradley opened the meeting and gave a synopsis of the board meeting. The Conclave annual meeting of AHCA will be in Burlington, Vermont this year and may be the last East coast meeting for some time. It was noted that Burlington is quite a long haul for our Healeys.

The website needs ideas and a volunteer to maintain it. Ideas are also being solicited for the Regalia.

Mike Bradley has located about 8 AHCA members who are reasonably close to the Lehigh Valley. He has tried to contact them without much success.

Activities were discussed at length and we came up with 3 or 4 pretty firm outings for the summer. First, we'll have a trip to the Ship Inn on Monday, May 21st. Bob Pritchett will organize that one. A June ice cream run will also be held on our regular meeting night. We'll try to organize a picnic in July at the home of Wendy Laubenstein (Ken's daughter) with pool, and that might also be on a 3rd Monday of the month date, if her schedule is ok. Finally, when the weather turns cool we'll try another fall foliage

*The Flash, April 2007*

tour, but no month has been selected yet.

Bob Messinger suggested that we should try for more weeknight activities since we have adequate daylight and we avoid the crunch of time conflicts on the weekends. Ken Beck suggested that we could try to include more inactive members by calling them prior to an activity. Mike Bradley said he would go through the membership list and give each active member a number of people to call. It was stressed that they don't have to have a running Healey to participate – maybe just bring a piece of a non-running Healey.

Tom Mantz brought up the invitation to Lehigh County Community College bazaar and car show on May 6th. We need a commitment for this event so that we can get an adequate number of cars at the show. There was general agreement that this would be a good thing to do, but we should try to get the MG club to join in so that we have a chance to get more cars. Ken Beck said he would approach the MG club on this. Lack of commitments and conflicts with other events don't show a lot of promise for this to happen.

April 16th will be our next meeting at the Lantern.

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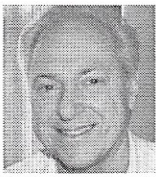
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## NORTH JERSEY

By Art Herkomer



I hope you all had a great Cinco de Mayo! Even though I am not sure what it is all about, any excuse to party is ok with me. Speaking about partying, I hope by now you have filled out and sent in the Encounter Registration Form in the Flash. If you want to take advantage of the discounted rate, you must do so by June 1, 2007. It would also be a good idea to make your hotel reservation at the same time you send in the form.

The March meeting was, again, graciously hosted by Martha and Andy Smith. Since Daylight Savings Time came early this year, it was a little easier to drive to the Smiths while it was still light out. Of course, I can't complain at all, since Tom Mulligan is always so willing to do the driving. All committee members are doing a great job under the leadership of co-chairmen, Allen Rosenberg and Steve Jekogian. Bill Kaltnecker, Rich Ippoliti and Andy Smith will have their cars ready for Encounter. Encounter '07 will be the first Encounter unveiling, since their restoration started a few years ago. I know only too well what it is like waiting for the finished product, as I also had my car in a restoration shop, which took three years. We are all looking forward to seeing their "new" cars, as I am sure all of them will rev up the competition in the roadster classes at the popular show.

Are any of you planning to attend the Austin Healey Green Mountain International Conclave in Burlington, Vermont, in June? I would love to attend this event, although Joan refuses to drive there in the Healey. I told her the event wouldn't be the same without the Healey.

Of course, she immediately reminded me of our Encounter "days of old". We first joined the club and attended our first Encounter in 1981, without our Healey. In fact, it took me so long to build a garage and restore the car that we attended most of the early Encounters without the Healey. Everyone was getting suspicious that I was perhaps lying about owning a Healey. In all of those first Encounters we attended with our old big Lincoln Continentals. Not only did we go to the Encounters in the Lincolns, we also did the Rallyes in our Lincolns (and still came in

last). At our annual Holiday Party in 1984, I received the "Most Industrious Award" from Steve Jekogian, which also read "1985 the Garage, 1986, the Car". Finally, in 1990, I had the car finished and re-painted in time for Encounter.

I hope most of you are more industrious than I am, and are in the process of finishing all the little things on your cars. No matter how early I get started, I always end up doing everything the last minute. I guess "you can't teach an old dog new tricks."

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Former member Luis Cubina is selling his **100-4.** It is a restored **1956 BN2.** Rebuilt carburetor, new clutch, new brakes, gas tank—aluminum, new stainless steel muffler, rebuilt shocks, new leaf springs, all rebuilt instrumentation, complete electrical overhaul, new wind shield glass, leather interior, factory rebuilt side curtains, electronic ignition, electronic gas pump, special coil, new chrome 60 spokes wheels, new tires. Phone: 516-759-0532. Email: jcu-bina@optonline.com. Car is located in Colts Neck, NJ.

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**100-6 OR 3000 Chassis** to convert to Small Block Chevrolet. Do not need AH drivetrain. No rust buckets please. Jim Nicholas 570-342-7683 #128 or dgnicholasjbn@epix.net.

**Working silver faced fuel gauge** for 1959 Austin Healey. Contact Richard Ippoliti 908-832-2311 or ipoliti@nac.net.

**Part for 1967 BJ8 steering box.** Moss calls it a Rocker Shaft part #667-685 and is not available. Rob Vollers 908-507-8273.

**1962 3000 spare bonnets** for design study; need several; will consider from stock to louvered or even alloy. Jim Elliott 718-808-2668 or jelliott2@nyc.rr.com. Please send photos & price.

## PHILADELPHIA



It was a beautiful spring day, Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, as 43 members and friends toured Dr. Fred Simeone's Competition Car Collection. Some unbelievable cars, all present under the same roof! Lots of photos and note taking occurred during our tour. Almost every one of the cars had won major races throughout history! General consensus is that he needs to add a Healey to the collection.

Some good news is that Dr. Simeone is in the early stages of preserving his collection by creating a foundation and building a new facility in which to house the collection and make it more accessible to the public.

Some were disappointed by the missing Cobra Daytona Coupe but the Doctor's right-hand-'person', Sophie, told us it was down in Georgia undergoing a "refurbishing", mostly mechanical in keeping with Dr. Simeone's theory of collecting. While mechanical items are re-built in order to keep the cars functioning as cars, he believes in keeping the car as close to original condition as possible. Some cars in his collection had undergone earlier full restorations by prior owners.

The truly best part about seeing these histori-

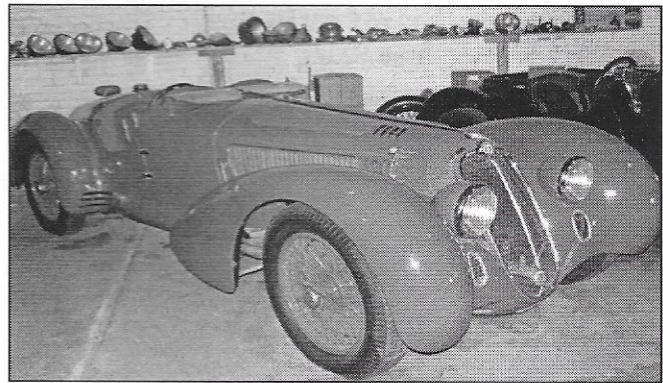
cally significant cars is the stories which go along with them. Doctor Fred has unbelievable recall and he shared intimate details about each car during our tour.

After the tour we wandered off to the Crescent City Restaurant on South Street. The meal was great and very affordable. Thanks again to Jason Urban for arranging that.

We need 'volunteers' for the following (although El Presidente Ray has already laid groundwork for each and is waiting for responses): 1. Spring Tour/Rally (It never hurts to have more than one) Should we join [barge-in-on] another Club? Anyone know if the local MG, Triumph, Jaguar, LBC Clubs have upcoming tours? 2. Host the Regional Picnic.

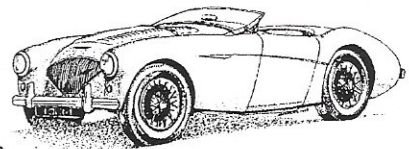
Don't forget our regular monthly meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Mariano's Tavern in Lansdale. The weather is getting better so we expect to see some Healeys in the parking lot - okay.

And I would like to give a special thanks to Ray Donovan - I borrowed heavily from his E-FLASH article on our tour of Dr. Simeone's collection. One thing I've learned over the years is do not spend time recreating the wheel and his article was great. THANKS RAY!



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## MEMBERSHIP

By Rick Brodeur



It's been a lean month for new members - we didn't get any! The driving season is starting; make sure you get your car checked to make sure it's safe to drive for the summer.

Talking about safety, here is a bit of information that is easy to overlook. Very few of us wear out the tires on our Healeys, we only go from a few hundred to maybe a few thousand miles per year. It's easy to have 10, 15, or 20 year old tires on your classic that have plenty of tread. All radial tires have a DOT code and the code includes information on the build date of the tire.

Before the year 2000, there were 10 digits in the code and the last 3 indicated the week and year the tire was manufactured. The first 2 digits are the week of manufacture and the last is the last digit of the year of manufacture.

After 2000, the codes were increased to 11 digits so the year code could be increased to 2 characters. (wwyy). Tires that are more than 10 years old should be checked carefully by a tire specialist and you should seriously consider replacing them.

Here are a couple of internet addresses that discuss tire care in general and how to read the DOT codes on tires including some reasons why 10 year old tires should be replaced.

[http://www.uniroyal.com/care/tire\\_maintenance.html](http://www.uniroyal.com/care/tire_maintenance.html)

[http://www.sizes.com/home\\_automobile\\_tires.htm](http://www.sizes.com/home_automobile_tires.htm)

[http://www.356registry.org/tech/tire\\_date\\_codes.html](http://www.356registry.org/tech/tire_date_codes.html). I hope you take a moment and check out these web sites. Keep yourself and your loved ones safe this year.

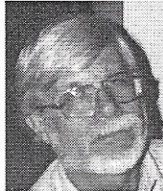
Our member lists are available to any member just for the asking. Each Region President has a copy that can be distributed, and I will send out a copy to any member who requests one. I prefer to send them out via email, but if that's not available to you just call or email me and I'll send out a paper copy.

My email address for the Club is [membership@austin-healey-stc.org](mailto:membership@austin-healey-stc.org). If you have any questions about your membership or didn't re-

ceive your Flash, please contact me. Contacting me is the quickest way to solve a membership or mailing problem. My phone number and email address are on the inside front page and also on our web site.

## LONG ISLAND

By Paul Parfrey



The LI Region met March 24th at the home of Elaine and Noel Gish. The agenda included Encounter participation, planning for local events, and a discussion of issues pertaining to a possible union with AHCA. A number of LI members who have not attended in the past expressed interest in attending Encounter and a willingness to volunteer for duty during the event. Dates were set for a tech session in April, and a rally or tour in May.

Steve Tjepkema, Art Lange and Stu Smith volunteered to help plan the May event. All of this will likely be over by the time you read this. The proposal to join AHCA precipitated a lively debate that included sound thinking



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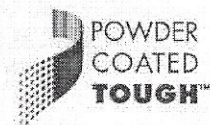
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Hershey October 10-13, <http://local.aaca.org/hershey/fallmeet.htm>;

Fall tour;

Awards Banquet-Nov.  
Progressive Dinner-Dec.

Prez. Dave announced that nominations for Corporate officers will be accepted and voted on at the Corporate Board meeting at the August Encounter for those volunteers willing to do so. The high pay remains the same—Nothing!! Nada!!

The Board also authorized purchasing limited edition 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Badge plaques with the Encounter logo. Our Region should be able to purchase 27 badges among our members based on the ration of our members to the total membership. The Board also endorsed procuring anniversary posters which will show the Encounter logos of all previous logos dating back to 1977. 18 limited edition anniversary posters will be the ratio for our Region as well.

**Flash/Advertising.** In order to stimulate new advertising in the Flash, members are asked to pass along information about different vendors or mechanics you are using for parts, repairs, etc. Corporate will contact these people for advertising and use them as a source for technical articles for club use. Send their name, contact information and what they do to Dave but only if you were satisfied with the end product.

Treasurer's report and 50-50 showed that we remain out of the red while 50-50 winners took their winnings and will eat well for the next 30 days compared to those of us who were not lucky enough to garner any of the pot of money on the table.

**AHSTC Website.** Members were appraised regarding the status of the website and asked

what system requirements might be established to bring the site up to date. Suggestions will be accepted through **April 30**. Please submit these electronically to Dave. Shawn Miller suggested member accessibility to submit items for "Sale" or "Wanted" which is planned to be coordinated through the Regional Presidents on each Region's site. Technical articles can be posted also. It was noted that LANCO and Capitol Region have been doing some recent website upgrades.

**AHSTC/AHCA Affiliation.** Following Steve Jekogian's excellent overview of the potential affiliation, members discussed the various pros and cons of a potential merger. These issues will be brought of the Board in June, after which a vote of the membership could be authorized to allow every member to vote yea or nay on the affiliation.

The four main issues follow:

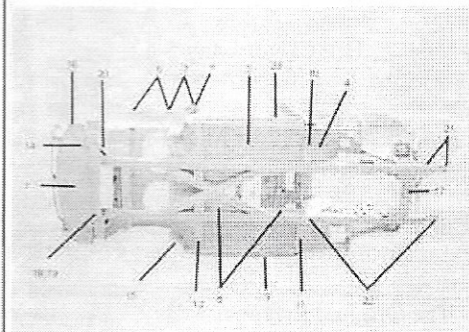
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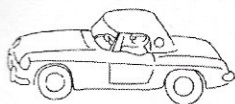
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BRITISH MOTOR TRADE ASSOCIATION

- What is in it for members?
- Benefits to AHSTC "The Club"
- Why not do it?

A reply to [dhooper11@comcast.net](mailto:dhooper11@comcast.net) by the end of April is appreciated.

Next meeting of the clan will be on April 17 (tax day) at "The Hop" in York. 6:45 PM for dinner and 7:30 PM for the business meeting. See 'ya there!

## **Carlisle 2007 Imported Auto Show Reminder**

Carlisle Imported Auto Show. May 18-20. Register early at <http://www.carsatcarlisle.com/import/index.asp> mentioning Austin-Healey Sports and Touring Club (please don't use the abbreviation only) so that we receive a free tent and location again this year. \$15.00 registration fee. Food suggestions? The Region (Harrisburg) will provide limited food again within the parameters of a constrained budget.

The largest kit car gathering in the United States joins thousands of imports ranging from vintage to brand new in this fun show. Carlisle Import-Kit/Replicar Nationals is a thoroughly enjoyable experience. You will see everything from the newest in kits to some beautiful vintage imports to a fun-loving group of spectators, vendors and exhibitors that come to enjoy themselves and admire fine automobiles.

For the free tent to occur Carlisle Events needs 25 registrations nearly 1 month in advance again this year so register now//ASAP. See you on the showfield!! As of 3-20-07 we had only 6 registrations with Carlisle. More are needed. Also, to receive another free tent location (includes free set-up) in 2008 we will need to have 25 registrants in 2007.

The top three Clubs with the number of registrations in advance will be eligible to receive a cash payment or trophy base of the numbers registered. Volvo will be the featured

*The Flash, April 2007*

marquee this year meaning that their numbers will be very high. Audi, Citroen/Peugeot, and Triumph also have a large number of registrations. Please attend so that the number of Austin-Healeys is considerable.

Foreign car and parts vendors will be out in force. There will be a drawing on Sunday afternoon for a gratis sports car (Volvo?) again this year.

Don't miss the on-site road course where the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) will offer a driving school on Saturday and time trials on Sunday on our quarter-mile six-turn mini road course. Check the Carlisle Events web site for regulations.

Support your Club and Marque by registering in advance and by your attendance on the show field.

Thanks.

Dave Hooper  
741 Collina Dr.  
Lewisberry, PA 17339  
(717) 938-5368 (Ph.# & Fax)  
[dhooper11@comcast.net](mailto:dhooper11@comcast.net)

## **May 26, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania THE BRITS ARE BACK AT HOPE LODGE**

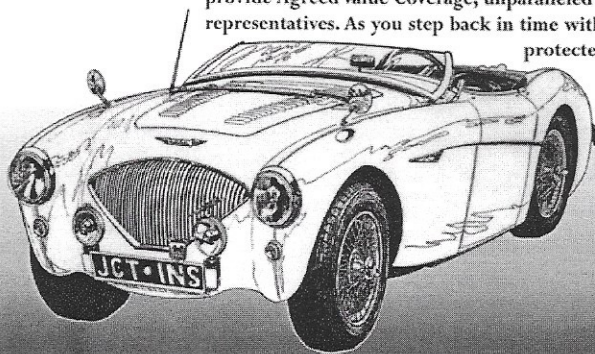
Hope Lodge Historic Site  
553 South Bethlehem Pike  
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All British concours show, sponsored by the Delaware Valley Triumphs Club. Contact Steve Klein, [klassic-car@aol.com](mailto:klassic-car@aol.com).

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