

The FLASH



OCTOBER 2023 | ISSUE 541



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AUSTIN HEALEY SPORTS & TOURING CLUB

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THE FLASH

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TABLE OF CONTENTS,
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ON THE COVER

Joe McGavin's awesome Austin~Healey 3000 MkIII
at the 44th Annual "MGs On the Rocks" British Car Show
Saturday, September 30th, 2023

What's In The Flash

By Tom Mulligan

Encounter – We are already thinking about the next Encounter, hosted by the Philadelphia Region in Ocean City NJ. See the enclosed flyer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR – Actually a letter to the entire Club. See the Hooper's warm response to being the George Null award recipients.

FOR SALE / WANTED – Our page of items for sale or wanted continues to grow. Perhaps there is something there of interest to you? Just a reminder – your entries run for 3 issues as stated in the back page of the Flash.

AUCTION REPORT – Two 100M's this month, which are always entertaining to follow at auction. Very few cars generate more passion and critiquing among Healey enthusiasts. Both of these cars are beautiful to look at, but one sold and the other stalled at half the price. Find out why by following the comments in the auction links.



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PRESIDENTIAL RUMINATIONS

Steve Feld AHSTC President

Earlier in September I had the opportunity to drive my Healey in a local Labor Day Parade. The Mendham Library was looking for a classic car to drive a Trustee member in the parade behind library staff and the library mascot - large yellow rubber duck (see photo). The Healey's parade debut got a lot of thumbs up signs as well as memories shared as we proceeded. As the car's temperature gauge steadily rose, my concern did as well but they both plummeted as soon as 20 mph was reached after the parade. Agreeing to participate in these types of events is a great way to promote our Healeys and share our enthusiasm for British cars.



Also, I recently came across an August 1989 article in Supercar Classics magazine in which Geoffrey Healey was interviewed. He reflected on ownership of big Healeys by saying,

"The prices people are paying for old Healeys amaze me. I wish I'd kept one or two, if only for that reason. Fortunately, that has saved a lot of cars from rotting away. Whatever the merits of cars as investments, they are a lot more fun than a bunch of diamonds or a share certificate."

With Encounter 2023 behind us and many British car shows and tours scheduled for October. This is prime time to drive your Healey as colorful leaves dance across the country roads in AHSTC land. (Sorry!)

If your Healey isn't running, why don't you seek some help from other club members? November to March is an excellent time to fix what needs to be done through a tech session that can easily be set up. At the very least, such a session will reveal what parts are needed and whether professional help is required. You may even discover that only a minimal amount of work is required to get it on the road.

As Geoffrey suggested, stop counting your diamonds and stock certificates and have fun driving your Healey!



HARRISBURG REGION

By Fred Bennett

This will be my last Flash article. Sonya and I are moving to Virginia this November, and we will no longer be able to attend events on a regular basis. However, we intend to keep our membership and visit our Healey friends as often as possible. Pam Frazier has generously offered to take on the task of Flash editor for the Harrisburg region. I can assure all of you that our region is in good hands!

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

By Pam Frazier



Fifteen members packed the meeting room at the hillside Café on September 19th for our monthly meeting. In attendance were Fred and Donna Sherk, Bob and Pam Preston, Shawn and Tammy Miller, Pam Frazier, George Wagman, Skip and Linda Hardy, Scott and Liz Brockman, Dave and Priscilla Hooper and Brian Kopp.

Before Bob Preston officially started the meeting, Shawn and Tammy Miller talked about their experience at the Coatesville Invitational Vintage Prix held Sept 14-16, 2023. Many of us, including me, didn't know we had a Grand Prix in PA.

Bob Preston kicked off the official meeting with a rearview-mirror recap of Encounter that focused on the contributions of our region's members. Even though Bob had originally planned for 70 registrants, there was a great response of 88, with only eight refunds, for a net total of 80.

Thanks were expressed to Skip and Linda Hardy for the great way they handled registrations, and to Tim for getting over \$3,500 in sponsorships. Most encouragingly, there were 20 new first-time registrations.

The Wednesday evening tour of the AACA Museum in Hershey was a big hit, with over 100 participants, and a great kickoff to the overall meet. Bob Preston had budgeted for a cost of \$475, but the final tally was over \$1,000, which included a sizeable discount thanks to the Museum's director, Jeff Bleimeister. Way to bust the budget, Bob!

Funkhana also experienced more participation this year, thanks to the efforts of Shawn and Tammy Millers' planning and preparation based on the theme of the movie National Lampoon's Vacation. The destination signs were great. Shawn and Tammy were dressed for the occasion. Tammy was in costume as Aunt Edna, curlers, housecoat, and all. Thankfully, Tammy survived our Funkhana, avoiding the fate of Aunt Edna in the movie. It was a fun event to watch, and based on feedback, was even more fun for the participants.

It was a nice addition to have four Jensens entered into the mix. They garnered a lot of attention on the show field, and their participation will hopefully encourage other Healey related marques to participate in future club events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Harrisburg Region's **Annual Fall Tour** is slated to be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023 (rain date- Sunday the 22nd) Participants will meet at the Summit Restaurant, Lewisberry at 10:00 a.m. There will be a restroom break at Pinchot Park halfway through, and the trip will end with lunch at Marzoni's in the Rossmoyne Business Park. As usual, the Fall Tour is being organized by Scott and Liz Brockman. Their tours are world renowned, so this is an event not to be missed!

Pam Preston announced she is currently searching for a venue in the Harrisburg area to host the **Annual Banquet**. The date is yet to be decided, but will likely be held November 11th or 18th, starting at 3:00 p.m.

Fred Sherk reported on the upcoming **AHSTC Exhibit at the AACA Museum in Hershey**. Our favorite marque will be featured in the Williams-Clyne gallery from November 2023 until April 2024. Our club has waited five years for this opportunity to educate and inspire the public about these incredible automobiles. We hope that every AHSTC member will visit the Museum and bring a friend. The following owners' cars will have the honor of representing our club: Steve Jekogian (3000); Del Border (Big Healey Racecar); Fred Sherk (Bugeye Racecar); Don Schneider (Healey 100); The Prestons (MK II Sprite). Those participating can bring their cars and display items starting in mid-October.



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On Saturday, September 9, the Wings and Wheels show was held at Wing's Field in Blue Bell. Club members attending included Rob Morrow and Dave Siwa. There were 42 cars on display along with numerous vintage aircraft. Longstanding member Mike Stein was a judge for the event.

On Sunday, September 10, a group of members went to Skippack to attend the continuation of last fall's Dave Markel's Car Museum tour.

Our regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 18 was well attended. Dinner and beverages were enjoyed by all, but the best parts were the friendships and conversations. Some members who have recently retired are beginning to be able to attend the meetings more regularly, such as Tom Walker and Dave and Sandy Ogletree. It was good to see them at the meeting.

On Saturday, September 23, a group of members met at Mamma Hawk's coffee shop in Peddler's Village to then drive to the George Nakashima Foundation for Peace in New Hope for a spectacular two-hour tour of the master woodworker's studio and buildings. We were fortunate that his daughter Mira led the tour and explained what we were seeing.

George Nakashima's works are in museums throughout the world, and the New Hope facility is a World Heritage Site. In 1975 George designed and built a home for Nelson Rockefeller in New York. Attending the tour were Dave and Barb Siwa, Nick and Diane Ludovic, Bob and Sue Ott, Gary and Joan Hartzel, Steve and Jean Snyder, Dave's sister, Annette Pollauf, and Marlyn and I. After the tour, we went to lunch at the Pineville Tavern which was enjoyable.

Upcoming events include the **Brits at the Village** car show on Saturday, October 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Lahaska. On Sunday, October 8, **Wheels at Wood**, which will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Archbishop Wood High School in Warminster. There might be a retirees drive on Wednesday, October 11, with details to follow. Additionally, there will be a trip to **Three Dog Garage** in Boyertown on Saturday, October 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to visit the car museum. Afterward we will have lunch at a nearby brewery.







North Jersey

By George Crombie

Here we are on the cusp of October, having just cruised on by the Fall Equinox (hey, my BJ9 is a Chevy Equinox – any relation?) without even a ripple on the “who cares?” magnetometer. I guess that means that we are deep into the best driving season of the northeastern part of the U.S.A.

The North Jersey Region held their September meeting on Tuesday, the 12th, at The Vintage Tavern in Gillette, NJ, with the following members in attendance: John Moore, Patrick Venezia (BJ8), Dennis Meehan, Bob Jankowitz, Steve & Lynn Jekogian, Steve & Ann Feld, Larry & Diane Gersten, Jim Vollmuth, Allen Rosenberg, Paul Olson, Ian Kessen (BT7), Paul Rust (BJ8), and George Crombie. Patrick, Ian and Paul Rust drove their big Healeys. During the meeting, Allen confirmed that the Delaware River Bridge Tour is scheduled for October 8th, starting in Philipsburg, and, after crossing the Delaware River (by a few bridges – hence, the name of the tour) numerous times, ending at The Washington Crossing Inn. I suspect that this may well be in the history books by the time you read this, so I hope that you have been keeping up with the eFlashes Steve Feld has been sending out. This year’s annual Holiday Party has been scheduled, and is set for Saturday, December 2nd at Steve & Lynn Jekogian’s home in Chester... We’ll give this another shot, and hope for a, shall we say, more positive and less eventful, gathering than last December. Wow! I can’t believe it’s been a whole year since the marshmallows were toasted (or was it the chestnuts being roasted?) in their attic.

Fallfest, hosted by the New Jersey Triumph Association and located at Veterans Park in Randolph Township, was held on Saturday, September 16th. From my understanding, this date was the rain date of a rain date, and might very well have affected the overall turnout of those in attendance. I counted 32 cars registered, with Frank Valente and Laurie Lynch (BJ8), Ian & Sue Kessen (BT7), Steve Feld (BT7), Bill Smith (TR6), Patrick Venezia, and George Crombie from the North Jersey Region all on hand to enjoy the absolutely gorgeous early Fall-type Saturday afternoon. Among the more interesting non-Healeys (am I biased, or what?) I took note of were a 1960 Triumph Herald, a 1968 Triumph GT6, and a pair of cream colored 1959 Jag XK 150 Roadsters; one with white walls, and one without.

The following day, Sunday, September 17th, Ralph Scarfogliero hosted another of his Cars & Crumpets in Morris Plains. Again, turnout was down a little, with around 22 British cars on hand, including Ralph in his MGA, Richard Ippoliti (BN4), Steve Jekogian (BJ8), Ian & Sue Kessen (BT7), Patrick Venezia (BJ8), and I was told that I had just missed Allen Rosenberg in his BN2. Hey! How did that Alfa get in there behind Richard’s BN4? The last weekend of September (as I’m writing this article) was pretty much of a washout even though Brits on the Beach in Ocean Grove, NJ, and British Car Day in Skippack Village, PA (NOT to be confused with Brits at The Village – Peddlers Village, Lahaska, PA) were both scheduled for Saturday the 23rd.

October starts off with the second to the last (for this year) **Cars & Crumpets** in Morris Plains near the Dunkin at Route 202 and Route 10 on Sunday the 1st. This is followed by the afore-mentioned **Brits at The Village** in Lahaska, PA on Saturday, October 7th. The **Delaware River Bridge Tour** is the next day, Sunday, October 8th (contact Allen – 732-742-4642 or Steve Feld – 973-525-9054 for more information, and/or to R.S.V.P.). North Jersey Region’s monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10th at The Vintage Tavern in Gillette, starting at 6:30 pm. **The Fall Tour** in northern NJ will be on a Saturday this year, which will be October 14th. Details should have gone out by now (contact Tom Mulligan – 973-670-9153 to R.S.V.P.), and this is followed by the final **Cars & Crumpets** of the season on Sunday, October 15th. The season wraps up on Saturday, October 21st with **Brit Fest** in Succasunna, NJ, and, a predictable nip in the air. Somewhere from middle November to early December expect to catch wind of this year’s **Polar Run** (#9, if you are keeping track). Of course, all of these dates are highly dependent on the blessings of the Weather Gods, so do stay tuned to the occasional *eFlashes* from Steve; or better yet, come on out to one of the next two monthly club meetings (Tuesday, October 10th and/or Tuesday, November 14th), and hear all the latest first hand!

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!



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Long Island REGION

By Paul Parfrey

Since last month's issue focused on Encounter, I saved other August news for now. Rich Miot attended a gathering at Waterfront at Roslyn Garage on August 6th. All 6 automobiles of Howard Kroplick's collection were on display. These are the Alco Black Beast which won the 1909 and 1910 Vanderbilt Cup Races and raced in the first Indy 500; Chrysler's Chrysler, a seven-passenger limousine custom built by LeBaron for Walter Chrysler to gift his wife with; Tucker 1044; 1963 Mustang III Concept Show Car, thought to be the oldest Mustang on the road today; and the 1962 Holman Moody Challenger III, a modified Ford Falcon. There were also tours of the Vanderbilt Cup Archives. Rich took photos which are included here.



Tucker 1044

August 26 was the Long Island Festival and Antique British Auto Display at old Westbury Gardens. This is a beautiful venue, and the antique British autos are on display in front of the impressive Manor House. There are house tours, wonderful gardens and grounds to explore, music, the Scottish Games themselves, crafts, performances, and much more. This is a great event with lots to see and do and eat and buy. This year Scott Greenfield, Ira Udasin, Toni Schoenthaler, and Rich Miot were there and sent photos. The day started out rainy which cut down on the usual attendance. The weather cleared later in the morning and was fine from then on.



Beneath the Roslyn Viaduct.



Holman-Moody Race Car

As reported last month, I heard from Bob Shaffsick recently and found out that he has moved back to Long Island. Hope we get to see him soon!

As I write this article, we have been in a patch of rainy and windy days, not conducive to driving for fun. However, the sun will come out someday and you might want to go out for a spin. Take some pictures and send them to me. Tell us where you went and how your car was. Or maybe you're working on a project and want to share that with our members. Remember, I need your input!



1909 Alco Black Beast



Scott and his BJ8.



Rich and his MGB.



Ira and Toni in the shade behind Ira's 100,

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Brandywine

Chuck Ott

REGION

Saturday, September 23 was our annual “Crab Crawl and Feast”. Since tropical storm Ophelia made land fall along the entire Delaware coast bringing heavy rain and wind on Saturday, the usual tour route along Delaware route 9 was canceled. This scenic route is close to the Delaware Bay and is quite prone to flooding. An alternate safer route brought us to our destination, the Boondock's restaurant in Smyrna Delaware.

A total of 16 members attended. The farthest away was Steve Garrett who drove 4 hours up from Luray, Virginia. Love those crabs! The Boondock's did not disappoint. The crabs were excellent as were the sides. Thankfully, the storm eased up with only occasional periods of rain during the afternoon. Needless to say, no Healeys dared venture out with all the storm and flood warnings.

Attending the event were: Steve Garrett; Nigel and Edy Smart; Mike and Pat Tyler; Pete Roberts and Dee Caffrey; Ray and Bonnie Slavinsky; David and Cathy Maule; Jim Martin; Chuck Ott; Ernie, Joan, and Andrew Leser.

So, even under doubtful weather conditions, the Crab Feast brought out a good attendance with everyone having a great time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 7th, 1 pm. The rain date is Saturday, October 14. **Annual Brandywine Region Picnic**. The Leser residence, Elkton, MD. RSVP to Joan by Sept. 30th (410-398-7308).

Saturday, November 18th, 12 noon. **Annual Elections**. Deer Park Tavern, Newark, DE. 



Letter to the Editor



Dave and I were greatly surprised to receive the George Null Award at Encounter. We knew, and were friends with, George Null for many years. We really enjoy our many friends and relationships in AHSTC which is why we attend so many events.

We want to thank Steve Feld, the AHSTC Board and everyone responsible for choosing us for this honor.

Sincerely,
Dave and Priscilla Hooper



Priscilla and Dave Hooper's 1961 AH Sprite Bugeye.

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AUCTION REPORT

By Tom Mulligan

This month we have two 100M's, one sold, and one RNM (reserve not met). 100M's are always fun to follow at auction, particularly the on-line auctions where all manner of "expert" gets to chime in. It seems there is always some doubt as to the authenticity of the car, or at least about the originality of the car. Such is the case with these two beautiful examples, one of which claims to be the best-known factory 100M in the country.

The 1956 white over blue car is claimed to be one of the most recognized 100M's in the country (world) and the seller appears to be the owner of the 100M registry if I infer correctly from the comments. The car is not completely original in the details and sold for \$181k on Bring a Trailer including the buyer's premium. The many discussions in the comments are worth reading as they provide valuable insight into the authentication of 100M's.

1956 AUSTIN-HEALEY 100M BN2 ROADSTER FOR SALE ON BAT AUCTIONS - SOLD FOR \$176,000 ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 (LOT #119,908) | BRING A TRAILER



The 1956 black over red car was RNM at \$80k. Just going by the photos, this is a very beautiful car with Heritage certificate documentation. But once again the comments and questions sunk this sale. While I'm not passing judgement on the authenticity or the originality of this car (I'll leave that to those of you who are more knowledgeable about 100M's), the comments are worth studying by anyone considering selling a car via an on-line auction. The rarer the car, the better prepared the seller must be. This car was hurt by many small issues rather than any one glaring problem.

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FOR SALE



For Sale - 1966 Austin Healey 3000 MK III

British Racing Green. The previous owner had the car since 1972 in Reading PA and kept it in very good condition. Rust free HBJ8L35085 has 53,000 miles. The original tonneau and convertible boot are still in the original bags. Includes tool roll bag. The car has new brakes, master, calipers, wheel cylinder, rotors, servo. Michelin XZX tires installed 2020 (tire code year 2019). The original black interior is in very good shape, top is very good, frame, outriggers, rockers, floorboards all in very good original condition. Originally BRG and appears to be repainted BRG. Runs great, repair records and pictures available. \$65,000

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

If you have questions about AHSTC, contact the Membership Coordinator, Rick Brodeur at 215-536-6912 or

info@austin-healey-stc.org

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