



REGIONAL RUMBLINS



Vol. 2015 Issue 7 **Newsletter of the South Texas Austin-Healey Club** **July 2015**



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STAHC is an area club of the Austin-Healey Club of America, the largest Austin-Healey club in the world. STAHC is one of 47 independent area clubs and was sanctioned by AHCA in 1979. STAHC covers the Austin, San Antonio and surrounding areas of South Texas.

Membership is open to owners and enthusiasts of all cars bearing the name HEALEY. Ownership of a Healey is not required. For membership information please contact Bob or Tina Adkins at (512) 264-2042,

membership@stahc.com
STAHC is on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/southtexasaustinhealeyclub>

You can join online at www.healeyclub.org

Current and past issues of Rumblins, as well as other information about our club, can be found at the STAHC web site:

www.STAHC.org
<https://www.facebook.com/southtexasaustin->

PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINS

By Brett Miller

Howdy y'all hope everyone is starting to dry out and get that mold out between your toes. It was great seeing everyone who showed up for the trash pick up, but also sad. The Blanco River sure did some damage to the property out there by our trash pick up area.

We even got to see a new landscape of the river since it carved out a new wall where the river flowed. Too many trees downed to describe.

Two things that we need to think of in the near future. 1.) Conclave - Julie and I are still crazy enough to drive our Healey up there. Are there any other folks that will be driving up there? We would be happy to caravan I guess, but we are going to try to get there in three days so we can enjoy the trip home at a more laid back scenic way.

If so, let me know. (if you can tolerate Julie - she can get pretty mean). 2.) Jim has included the car show/vintage car race info for 11/7 later this year. Last year it was ugly weather, so we didn't get a chance to drive on the track, but the race was great. There were even folks that were busy cleaning and drying off their cars in the rain. Come on up if you can - we have a few rooms at the inn that we can put up a few folks.

Happy trails and thank you.

Brett

ELECTED OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President - Brett Miler
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Co Vice Presidents -Bonnie
bonnieayer@swbell.net &
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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Rumblins is the newsletter of STAHC. My goal is to issue Rumblins on the first day of each month. To meet this goal, material for publication must be received by the end of the previous month. Member submissions are not only encouraged, but are desperately needed! Thanks for your participation and cooperation. All material presented in Rumblins may be used in other club newsletters provided that Rumblins and the author are given credit.

STAHC EVENT CALENDAR

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	WHO
Enclave 2015	The Wyndham and Courtyard by Marriott, Gettysburg, PA.	July 19 - 24, 2015	New England AHCA and Austin Healey Sports & Touring Club
Ice Cream Social	Freddie' Frozen Custard in New Braunfels	August 23, 2015	Bordens
Highway Pickup & ??	Highway Pickup in Blanco	September date TBA	Whitmores & ??
Tour to Palmetto State Park	Start: TBA. Destination: Palmetto State Park between Luling and Gonzales	TBA	Berrys
All British Car Day	Roundrock Texas	September 25 - 27	
Leahey Cabin Retreat	Leahey area	TBA	Stamps
South Texas All British Car Day	Boerne Texas	October 24	South Texas Triumph Association
Fall AHCA Delegates Meeting	TBA	November 14 & 15, 2015	AHCA
Holiday Party	Dick's Classic Garage, San Marcos	December 6, 2015	Millers
Tech Sessions	Where arranged	As requested	All STAHC members

TBA = To be announced.

We encourage you to drive your Healey to these events if you can. However, Healeys are never required. Your participation is what is important.

The September Highway Pickup was originally scheduled to be combined with a visit to the Chamberlain,s River Cottage near Wimberley. Unfortunately, this will not be possible due to Bob's travel schedule. If any of you have an idea for an event to combine with the Highway Pickup please contact the Whitmores to co-ordinate a date and time.

OTHER EVENTS CALENDAR

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	WHO
Races at CoTA	Circuit of The Americas	See Below	CoTA
Southeastern Classic	Sevierville, TN	September 24 - 27	Smoky Mtn AHC

RACES AT CoTA

Circuit of The Americas (CoTA) is home of the Formula One United States Grand Prix. It is located in Travis County, about 16 miles southeast of Austin and it will be the site of several other racing events in 2015. For more information: circuitoftheamericas.com

- September 17 - 19 Lone Star LeMans
- October. 23 - 25 Formula One (US Gran Prix)
- November 7 Sports Cars Vintage Racing weekend (See below)

(Check the CoTA web site for updated scheduling.)

SOUTHEASTERN CLASSIC XXIX

The twenty-ninth edition of this popular event is shaping up to be something special. This will be an event spanning four days and will feature a fashion show, shopping in Sevierville, Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, as well as drives through the very scenic Smoky Mountains. The Rally on Friday will include the world (in)famous Tail of the Dragon! Saturday will see the traditional popularity car show, gymkhana and an acceleration event at the Sevierville Airport. Yes, there will be a Margaritaville both Friday and Saturday evenings.

For more information contact Denise Denton, Chairman: denisedentonsmahc@gmail.com. Host for this event will be the Smoky Mountain AHC. Host hotel is the Wilderness at the Smokies and you can book your room at: www.wildernessatthesmokies.com.

SPORT CAR VINTAGE RACING WEEKEND

This is the CoTA event that Brett talks about in his letter this month. As of today CoTA and SVRA have not published information about this event on their respective web sites. This information will be included in a future issue of Rumblins as soon as it is available.

EDITOR'S RUMBLINS

By Jim Richmond

LAST MONTH

HIGHWAY PICKUP

Not long after the tragic storm hit along the Blanco River a group of STAHC members gathered on FM 1623 to pick up trash. Their story is on the next page.

THIS MONTH AND BEYOND

ENCLAVE



The North American gathering of Healeys and Healey enthusiasts is the featured event for July and its almost here. This international event will take place from July 19 to 24, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Called Enclave (not Conclave) it will be hosted by the Northeast Region of AHCA and the Austin Healey Sports & Touring Club.

As of June 9, there were 269 registrations. This is planned to be the largest Healey meet in North America since Conclave 2007 in Burlington, Vt, with the organizers anticipating over 300 Healeys. They will take advantage of the historical significance of Gettysburg, while showcasing the Healey marque during five days of events. For a summary of the planned events please see page 31 of the June Healey Marque magazine.

As of today, David and Bonnie Ayer, Brett and Julie Miller, and Karen and I will be going to Enclave. It's not too late for you to

join us. Please let us know if you do decide to go.

For more information about Enclave, please go to

www.enclave2015.com

HEALEYS IN CYBERSPACE AND OTHER MEDIA

By STAHC Members (and sometimes others)

Last month Rumblins reported the death of one of the founders of AHCA and its first President, Walt Blanck. The July issue of Healey Marque features the story of Walt's life and involvement in the formation of AHCA written by Ken Olendzki of the Mid-West AHC. AHCA President Fred Dabney's Byline is devoted to a tribute to Walt.

Please take a few minutes to read each of these articles. You will end up with a better of appreciation of our clubs origins and the life of one of the people very much involved in its formation.

The July Marque also recognizes that the following STAHC members have reached AHCA membership milestones:

Glenn & Jeanne Graves: 20 years

Jeffrey & Denene Whitmore: 20 years

Robert & Nancy Dorsey: 15 years

IMPROVING THE BUGEYE - PART VII

BY JIM RICHMOND

After two months of not much progress to report, I have returned to converting our Bug-eye from a 948 engine to a 1275 and converting from front drum brakes to discs so that the car will not only go faster but stop better.

First, why the delay?

The 100 developed a problem with one of the rear brakes locking up. In the process of dealing with this problem in the hope of getting the big Healey ready for Enclave, I spent some time under the car bleeding the brakes, stopping brake fluid leaks, etc, I noticed several other problems. These included the usual oil leaks from the engine and gearbox getting worse plus rust in one of the chassis outriggers. Eventually, I came to the conclusion that these and other problems needed attention and that I really did not want to deal with them. So, a week after we return from Enclave we will take the 100 up to Fourintune in Wisconsin for a complete restoration.

Now back to the Bugeye.

To convert the drums to discs the first step is to remove everything on the front suspension between the lower A arm (wishbone) and the shock absorber arm. As you can see from the following pictures, this part has been completed on the left front wheel.



Tire and wheel have been removed.



Brake drum and hub have been removed. (The inner bearing stayed on the swivel axle.)

The swivel axle with the king pin have been released from the shock arm and steering link. After removing the lower fulcrum pin we are ready to install the parts needed for disc brakes.



HIGHWAY PICKUP

By David Ayer

The Highway was pretty clean except for the flood trash. The water got really high. Besides myself, these STAHC members were present to help with the pickup:

- Jeff, Denene and Hannah Whitmore
- Brett and Julie Miller
- Lynn McKinnie
- Bob and Tina Adkins



These "participants" did not pick up much trash!

The Adkins came in their new Healey and Lynn was in his Healey. (Both Healeys are featured on page 1 along with several of the participants. ed.)

We went to Pecan Street brewpub in Johnson City for lunch. Blanco was having their monthly gathering of vendors on the square and was very busy.

Fun day.

EL MERCADO

El Mercado is our advertising section. If you have Healeys, Healey parts, Healey stuff or even other British stuff that your spouse says has to go, send it in and we will run it. If you are looking for any of these things we will run that too. (Just don't let your Spouse see this.) Free to members. Very inexpensive to others.

SPRITE/MIDGET PARTS FOR SALE

Over 160 different parts available. About half are new and never used, the rest are used but in good working order.

Where available Moss and Victoria British part numbers are listed. Some rare/hard to find parts with no part numbers listed in the catalogues are on this list.

Send your email and I will send you a spreadsheet of what is available.

Bob McFarland bob_mcfarland@me.com or 512-788-0322

PARTS WANTED FOR 100 BN1

Looking for a Texas Cooler fan together with or without the adaptor kit for a BN1
and

An original BN1 rear bumper either in good condition or requiring re-chroming

If you have or know of any of these parts available please contact:

Jim Richmond at jkrich@gvtc.com or phone (830) 537-5075

All articles appearing in Rumblins represent the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Rumblins or the South Texas Austin-Healey Club. Neither Rumblins nor STAHC is responsible for the accuracy or safety of technical information presented herein. If you choose to use such technical information, you do so at your own risk.

TOOL BOX

The purpose of the Tool Box is to assemble, and make available for use by STAHC members, specialty tools that are used in the restoration and/or maintenance of Healeys. In general, such tools will be those that are too expensive for an individual member to acquire for one time, or infrequent use.

The following rules were established for use of the Tool Box by STAHC members. Success of this program will depend on your cooperation.

- •The Tool Box and records of use will be maintained by a member designated by the STAHC Board. The initial "Tool Man" is Jim Richmond.
- •Tools to be acquired for the Tool Box will be determined by the STAHC Board. If one of your projects requires the use of a special tool you should contact the Tool Man with the following information:
 - Name of the tool.
 - What is it used for.
 - Where can it be purchased (if known) and the approximate cost.
 - When do you need the tool?
- •Requests to use an item in the Tool Box should be directed to the Tool Man. Arrangements for delivery and return of the tool will be made with the Tool Man. Unless otherwise agreed to, the tool will be returned within one month of the date it is delivered. You are responsible for:
 - Determining that the tool is appropriate for the contemplated task.
 - Determining that you understand and can execute the proper use of the tool.
 - Damage to the tool.
 - Return of the tool within one month or other time limit agreed to.
- •Upon delivery, you will be asked to sign a receipt agreeing to these terms. STAHC and the Tool Man will not be responsible for your use of the tool or any damage or injury that it may cause.
 - •Currently, the STAHC Tool Box contains the following:

Lift-the-Dot Hand Punch. (Punches center hole and prong holes for installation of Lift-the-Dot fasteners for tops and tonneau covers. Moss Motors No. 226-105.) Valve Guide Reamer size .281 for intake and exhaust standard size valve guides used on all Sprite and MG Midget A series engines 1958 - 1974 (948cc, 1098cc, and 1275cc) and an engine leveler (for removing or installing an engine).

TECH SESSIONS

Tech sessions can be many things. They can be a get-together of members to help a fellow club member with a specific problem or a task that requires (or is easier) with one or more helpers. A Tech session can also be a meeting where a member, or a non-member, with some particular skill or expertise demonstrates how to accomplish a particular task. Tech Session attendees may be helpers, teachers, learners, tool suppliers or any combination of the above. Tech session hosts usually supply light refreshments. Beer is recommended.

If you would like to host a tech session please notify me (Rumblins editor) as far in advance as possible, but no less than one week ahead of the session date. I will forward your request to all members on the Rumblins e-mail list as soon as possible. Please supply the following information:

Date, time and location with directions.

The task (s) that you hope to accomplish.

Description of problems, if any, that you have encountered.

Tools required that you do not have.

Model and year of your Healey, e.g., BJ8 Phase II, 1967.

Other information that you would like to include in your notice.