



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 or membership@stahc.com

#### Inside this issue:

Presidents Rumblins	1
Contacts	2
Event Calendar	4
Tool Box	5
El Mercado	5
Tech Sessions	6
Registration All	7
British Car Day	

# Regional Rumblins

Volume 2016, Volume 10

4 October 2016

## Presidents Rumblins by Jim Richmond

Cooler weather is finally here. If you haven't been driving you Healey, now is the time! Perhaps some member can lead an impromptu tour? Healey not running? Ask Charlie to schedule a tech session; we might be able to help.



Last month, several STAHC members removed trash from River Road just west of Blanco.

It was still hot that day! However, the trash pickup went quickly and we were soon eating lunch (and drinking beer) in

air-conditioned comfort at the Redbud Café in Blanco. The following members helped with the cleanup:

- Denene, Hannah and Jeff Whitmore
- Lynn McKinnie (with Healey)
- Tina and Bob Adkins (with Healey)

## A Twist of Fate?

By Sarah A. Crombie

Kind of funny sometimes, the way things work out. After my first trip to Australia a couple of years ago, my mom came to me and said, "It's always been my dream to go to Australia, and after hearing your stories and seeing your pictures I'm finally going to go." So, she and my dad took a 4-week tour of Australia and New Zealand. My dad came back and excitedly told me he'd learned about a Crombie in New Zealand. Being with a tour, he didn't have a chance to get in touch with the man, but had ended up with an email

address. Well, I'd been in the process of saving up and planning my own trip to New Zealand, so I thought I'd shoot an email out there and see what happened. I was excited to hear back, and became sort of "typing-pals," (as opposed to "pen-pals," from back when people actually used to PEN letters to each other!) As my trip came closer, my new friend – (and "Long lost relative," so to speak) – offered to meet up if I made it to his neck of the country. Well, I hate making promises I don't know if I can keep, but at the same time I was



really keen to meet him and his wife – plus, I'm always up for checking out (most) new places, (unless there are spiders!) I CAN promise to "try," however, and when I promise that, I certainly do my best!! Well, "my best" paid off, and I



Austin Healey boat at Conclave 2016

## Elected Officers, Board Members & Appointed Positions

President: Jim Richmond  
(830) 537-5075  
jkrich@gvtc.com

Vice President: Ron Borden  
(830) 537-3191  
rborden@gvtc.com

Membership: Tina Adkins  
(512) 264-2042  
membership@stach.org

Treasurer: Bob Adkins  
(512) 264-2042  
bobadkins@mac.com

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:  
Charlie O'Connors  
(210) 284-0095  
charliebt7@gmail.com

Highway Cleanup: Jeff & Denene  
Whitmore  
(210) 403-3783  
defwhit@satx.rr.com

South Texas All British Car Day  
Representative: Lynn McKinnie  
Lmckinnie@satx.rr.com

**STAHC is on  
Facebook at  
[https://  
www.facebook.  
com/  
southtexasausti  
nehealeyclub](https://www.facebook.com/southtexasaustinehealeyclub)**



## Presidents Rumblins (Cont'd)

- Julie and Brett Miller
- Bonnie and David Ayer
- Jim Richmond

Thank you! (Hope I listed all that helped. Last month, I failed to include Michael and Stacey Manser in the list of Ice Cream Social attendees.)

Texas All British Car Days in Round Rock was held September 23 – 25. Did any STAHC members attend all or part of this event? If so, how about a story and photos for the next Rumblins?

The day after the highway pickup my Tahoe, with a Healey transmission from Mike Manser in the back, and I left for Cedarburg, Wisconsin where our 100 had spent the last year undergoing a complete restoration. Tom Kovacs of Fourintune Garages had completed work on

the car just a few days earlier. My intention was to spend two full days driving the car to see if adjustments were required. Unfortunately, rain and the threat of rain limited my driving to thirty or forty miles. In spite of this, the Healey looks and drives great.

The Tahoe, loaded with old parts replaced during the restoration, returned home at the end of the week. I am now making arrangements for the 100 to be shipped back home and hope to have it back in time for South Texas All British Car Day in Boerne.

STABCD will be held rain or shine on October 29 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Main Plaza in Boerne. This event is sponsored by four of the British car clubs in South Texas including STAHC. This year's host is the Alamo MG Association and all British cars are invited. A registration form is included in this edition of Rumblins if you are showing your British

car. All others are invited to view the cars with no charge and no need to register. Lets have a big turnout of Healeys and STAHC members.

Texas All British Car Day.  
Jim

The national Austin-Healey Club of America annual Fall Delegates meeting in Indianapolis on November 5 and 6 will follow STABCD. I plan to attend as the Delegate from STAHC representing you. If you have any questions or issues that you would like me to bring up at the meeting please contact me at [jkrich@gvtc.com](mailto:jkrich@gvtc.com) or call 830-537-5075.

Hard to believe, but our annual Holiday Party is just two months away and that is the event where we hold elections and make appointments for next year. If you currently have an elected or appointed position the nomination committee (Julie Miller, David Ayer and myself) need to know if you plan to stand for re-election or appointment. If you have not done so already, please contact me with your intentions. If you are not currently serving in one of the club positions listed elsewhere in this newsletter and are interested in doing so, please contact me.

Hope to see everyone at the South



### A Twist of Fate? (Cont'd)

made it to his part of New Zealand, just for a day, and we arranged to meet up and spend a good bit of the day together. It was just like catching up with an uncle or similar relative I hadn't seen in ages!! Such comfortable, lovely people he and his wife were!! Little did I know that this meeting would have anything what-so-ever to do with Healeys. It was when we stopped at a coffee shop that I happened to mention having taken Auto Mechanics in high school because my dad had a "little British sports car" I'd grown up with that I'd always wanted to inherit. He asked what type of car, and when I responded, "Austin Healey," he chuckled and said, "I have an Austin Healey!" Well, how about that! (I wonder if maybe now I can say it "runs in my blood"?? Ah, maybe not – but still, pretty cool!) What're the odds, that a chance encounter with someone who simply shared my last name, would just *happen* to have (what I always thought to be) a pretty rare British Classic?! This was exciting, and gave us another common interest! He ended up acting as a sort of "tour guide" for me for the few hours we spent together that day. He showed me around quite a bit of the Hawke's Bay Region, and we were able to meet up with his wife for about an hour over lunch. As we cruised out to Cape Kidnappers, east of Hastings, we both spotted a



**Current and past issues of Rumblins, as well as other information about our club, can be found on the STAHC Website**

### Event Calendar -

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	WHO
Fall AHCA Delegates Meeting	TBA	TBA	AHCA
Holiday Party	Dick's Classic Car Garage	December 4, 2016	Millers



## A Twist of Fate (Cont'd)

long tin walled structure with what must've been a dozen flags waving outside, which definitely drew our attention to it and the banner that said "British Car Museum." "Well, why not?!" We made the stop to check it out, and I loved that *neither* of us had been there. I felt kind of like I was an excuse for a "local" to check out something new in their own area!

There was a steering wheel affixed to the tin wall just outside the door, and the horn served as the "doorbell." For \$10 each, we were admitted inside and free to wander on our own self-guided tour. According to the brochure, the man had 400 cars here! Although I didn't take the time to count them, I wouldn't be surprised, as they were "stacked" 2-high along the walls, (at least!), and sardined into much of the floor space! Most seemed to be Morris-es, particularly Morris Minors, with a few old Morris Commercials, some MGs, and quite a few Humbers – which I'd never heard of. Sadly, no Austin-Healeys. (My friend did ask him why not, and the man replied they were "too dear," meaning too expensive... I'm not sure of the logic in that math... 400 other cars, but I Austin Healey is too expensive... But hey, his choice! Besides, since all the cars just seemed to be sitting there "on display," it's probably just as well!) Leaving, my friend and I commented that it was really kind of "ingenious," in a way. Whereas my dad collects the little model



Healeys – and probably has just as many! – this man turned his addiction, I mean collec-

tion, into a little money-maker! And it was right there in his own garage; he didn't even have to

## 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 of and/or maintenance of Healeys. In general, such tools will beat those that are too expensive for an individual member to acquire for one time or infrequent use.

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)
- Tenax Fastening Tool
- Snap Fastening Tool
- Valve Guide Reamer size .281 for intake and exhaust standard size valve guides used on all Sprite and Midget A series engines 1958-1974.
- Engine leveler (for removing or installing an engine)
- Carb Synchronizer
- Colortune Carb Synchronizer
- Wire wheel spoke tool
- 1/8" OD pipe bending tool
- Panel & Trim Removal Tool Set
- CD Workshop Manual for Sprite MK 2, 3 & 4

If you would like to borrow any of these tools, please contact Jim Richmond at [jkrich@gvtc.com](mailto:jkrich@gvtc.com) or (830) 537-5075.

**Current and past issues of Rumblins, as well as other information about our club, can be found on the STAHC Website**



Ressie and I did see some British cars while cruising the northeast coast.

## 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'll post it here. If you are looking for any of these things we will run that to. El Mercado is free to members, very inexpensive to others.

There are still free Sprite parts left from those donated by Bob McFarland. If interested, please contact Jim Richmond at [jkrich@gvtc.com](mailto:jkrich@gvtc.com) or (830) 537-5075.

We're on the web at  
<http://www.stahc.org>

---

## TECH Sessions

Tech sessions 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 the session can also be a meeting where a member, or 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 contact Charlie O'Connors at (210) 284-0095 or char-

liebt7@gmail.com 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 Rumblyns email list as soon as possible. Please supply the following information.

- Date, time & location
- Task that you hope to accomplish
- Description of the problems, if any, that you have encountered
- Tools required that you do not have
- Model and year of your Healey

- Other information that you would like to include in your notice/invite

