

OVAHC

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<http://OhioValleyAHC.com>

NEWSLEAK

December Minutes

January 2012

The December 3rd meeting and Christmas party of the OVAH club was opened by President, Hazel Klein. The Ballinger's were thanked for hosting a very nice party with good food and good conversation, not to mention a fun gift exchange run by Pat Kreuter.

Hazel Klein thanked all committee members for their service this past year.

V.P. Skip Jackson: Absent Skip will be president in 2012. Jon Andorn will be V.P.

Treasurer and Membership: Pat Duffey said our treasury was in good shape. Pat sent a sheet around for sign-up as to getting the Newsleak via E mail or snail mail or both. Doug Menkhaus will no longer be publishing the Newsleak.

Secretary: Nancy Hall thanked Cindy Loos for taking the minutes for January, February, and March.

Activities: Dale Ballinger: Dale's hours of work and days off have been changed and his days off are now Tuesday and Wednesday. He is asking for volunteers to help plan activities, especially week-end drives.

Editor: MaryAnn Grabow: She was given a round of applause for her work on the Newsleak.

Tech Support: Bernie Grabow. No report.

Historian: Judy Chamberlain: Present in Ft. Myers, Florida.

Delegate: Don Klein. There will be no increase in national or local dues.

Old Business: Dale Ballinger thanked all who ordered T-shirts and we thanked him for doing the leg work and the ordering. The shirts are \$10 each. If still interested, contact him for sizes and colors.

John Parrott brought lost and found items from their bonfire. Call them if you are missing anything. (cooler, blanket)

New Business: The Louisville AH club donated \$200 to the Make a Wish Foundation. A motion was made that we do the same. (Other AH clubs in the U.S. are doing the same.) The motion was voted on and passed that we donate \$200.

A picture of Ivan Bell's car is in the Healey Marque.

John Parrott is working on business cards for our club and is looking for A.H. photos.

February and March meetings need a host.

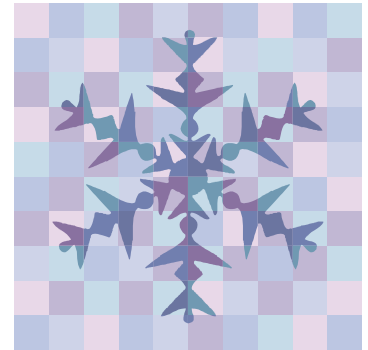
January meeting will be held at Richard Pratt's house on Saturday, January 7, at 3:00 PM.

Hazel Klein was thanked with applause for being president in 2011.

The Ballinger's were thanked again for hosting a very enjoyable gathering.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Hall, Secretary.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone!!! We'll see you in April.



OVAHC T-SHIRT status report:

The shirts have been ordered and will be in soon. I hope to bring them to the January meeting at Richard Pratt's house. The level of support has been tremendous. Four shirts were ordered, oh yeah, four dozen. So if you come to this next meeting I will bring them, providing they're done. Only \$10 each. Thanks a bunch.

Dale Ballinger

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

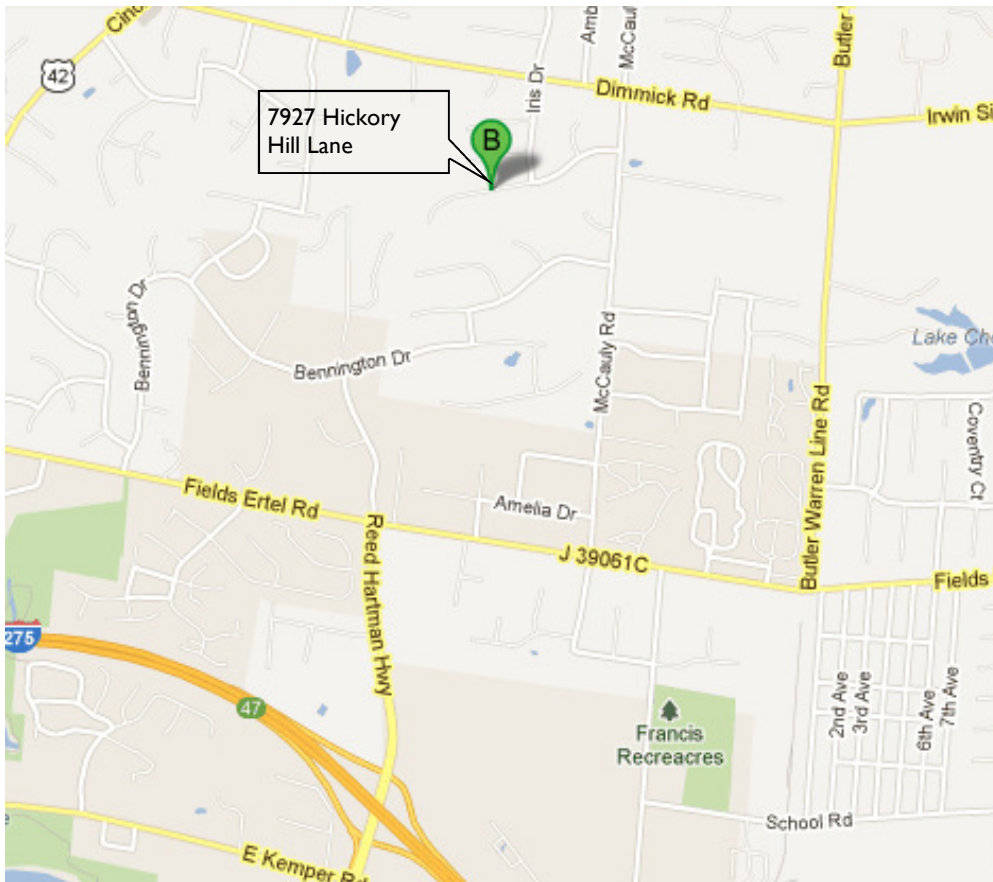
January 7.....Meeting at Richard Pratt's **3:00 kick tires...4:00 meeting**

MEETINGS 2012

January: Richard Pratt
February: **Open**
March: Dave Norman
April: Jacobs
May : Menkhaus's
December Christmas Party: Andorns

July: Cox's
August: Hall's picnic
September: Loos's
October: Parrott's Bonfire
November: Grabow's

January meeting: Richard Pratt's Sat. 1/7



7927 Hickory Hill Lane
45241-1363
513-755-0049

Take I-275 to Reed Hartman Highway Exit and go North off the exit onto Reed Hartman Highway.

Take the 1st right onto Fields Ertel Rd

Take the 3rd left onto McCauly Rd.

Turn left onto Hickory Hill Lane and Richards will be on the left. 7927

This meeting will be held on Saturday, January 7 at 3:00 to kick tires and 4:00 for the meeting. Please mark your calendar for this daytime meeting!

February's meeting is still up for grabs. It doesn't have to be on a Monday night—you can pick the time and day! Note March is at Dave Norman's. Girls will Have a shopping date at Rookwood!

Christmas 2011



Tom, Richard, John, Chuck & Gayle making Merry



Pat Murray telling a story to pass the presents around.



Reindeer Crossing



The lovely ladies invade the dining room



Oh what fun it is to be exchanging gifts tonight



The guys turn passing presents to Pat's story, like musical gifts!



CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____
Last First Spouse First Name

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

CAR INFO _____
(New member or any car changes) YEAR TYPE SERIAL #

The Ohio Valley Austin – Healey Club chapter of the Austin – Healey Club of America dues are \$65 per calendar year. National members receive the monthly **Healey – Marque** an award-winning magazine and our local *Newsleak* with local information about our club activities. “Local Only” OVAHC dues are \$15 any time during the year and members will receive our monthly local *Newsleak*. Everyone is encouraged to attend monthly meetings and join us for other activities. Our goals are to promote friendship and to preserve the Healey marque. Thank you.

Please make your check payable to OVAHC and send to our membership officer:

Pat Duffey
6320 Ristaneo Drive
Middletown, OH 45042

or

Registration can be completed on the Austin-Healey Club of America web site
www.healeyclub.org/join-paydues.aspx

Choose an option for your OVAHC newsletter. (Electronic is recommended.)

I want **only** the *Newsleak* electronic version. This saves our club's funds.

Mail the *Newsleak* **AND** send it via e-mail also.

Please **only** mail me the *Newsleak*, nothing by e-mail.

ACTIVITY—JANUARY 18

Journey Stories: an OVAHC Activity

Scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 12:15 PM in Fort Thomas, Kentucky. You can go anytime with your traveling buddies. Feel free to set up another date.

This exhibit is on loan from the Smithsonian Museum in DC and one of only five cities across the country to get it. I think we should go. After we tour the small museum we shall have a late lunch about 2ish nearby.

The Smithsonian traveling exhibit, "**Journey Stories**," begins at the Community Center in Tower Park at noon. Admissions are free though we LOVE a donation! More than 50 quilts are being loaned for this show. Great family stories are told through these homemade quilts. A rosary that traveled through three major wars from father to son and once more. Did they all make it back safe? Find out for yourself. The exhibit is at the Fort Thomas Military and Community Museum. This exhibit will begin December 10 and end January 21, 2012. It will be open daily noon until 4:00. It will be closed for the holiday December 23-25 and December 30-January 1. This entire event will be manned by volunteers

Journey Stories – tales of how we and our ancestors came to America – are a central element of our personal heritage. From Native Americans to new American citizens and regardless of our ethnic or racial background, everyone has a story to tell. Our history is filled with stories of people leaving behind everything – families and possessions – to reach a new life in another state, across the continent, or even across an ocean. The reasons behind those decisions are myriad. Many chose to move, searching for something better in a new land. Others had no choice, like enslaved Africans captured and relocated to a strange land and bravely asserting their own cultures, or like Native Americans already here, who were often pushed aside by newcomers.

Our transportation history is more than trains, boats, buses, cars, wagons, and trucks. The development of transportation technology was largely inspired by the human drive for freedom. **Journey Stories** will examine the intersection between modes of travel and Americans' desire to feel free to move. It is accounts of immigrants coming in search of promise in a new country; stories of individuals and families relocating in search of fortune, their own homestead, or employment; the harrowing journeys of Africans and Native Americans forced to move; and, of course, fun and frolic on the open road.

The story of the intersection between transportation and American society is complicated, but it tells us much about who we are – people who see our societal mobility as a means for asserting our individual freedom. **Journey Stories** will use engaging images with audio and artifacts to tell the individual stories that illustrate the critical roles travel and movement have played in building our diverse American society.

Journey Stories is curated by William Withuhn, curator of transportation for the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

Take the Route 27 exit # 2 from I-471 and go south on Route 27. Go about one mile and turn left on South Fort Thomas Avenue. Go north on S. Ft. Thomas Ave. for about one half mile. Turn right onto Douglas Street and then turn right on Cochran. Meet at the museum at 12:15 and the time we spend inside is a bit flexible. Free admission and the address is 900 Cochran Avenue in Tower Park.



Learning to go Fast

by BURT S. LEVY



I'm sure a lot of you out there in British Sportscarland harbor dreams of high speeds and open roads and near-lethal doses of adrenaline. There you are, skimming along an asphalt serpentine, flirting with the laws of physics at every turn, ripping crisp, deft shifts up and down through the gearbox, listening to the carbs burble and clear on the overrun. Ah, bliss .

And then there's the reality side of things: charging raggedly down a country road at twice the legal speed limit, terrifying your passengers and doddering old couples in oncoming beige Buicks, scattering livestock and risking great harm to yourself, your ride, and anyone unlucky enough to be in the vicinity.

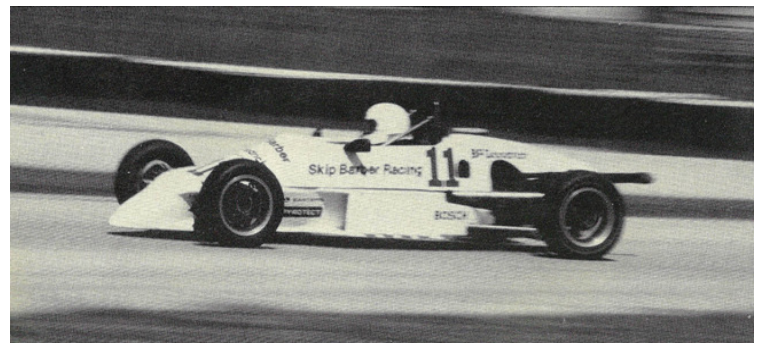
This is not great driving. This is irresponsible foolishness. Sure, I've been tempted by interesting, seductive roads. Particularly the ones snaking all around the Kettle Moraine National Forest near Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. And I've given in gladly to their allures. A good road becomes a vacuum, sucking you into it, begging for more. There is a wonderful, well-balanced, totally-illegal speed perfectly suited to this kind of high-speed slaloming. But it's several clicks back from flat-out, and makes some kind of basic allowance for the odd school bus, jogger, or wandering fauna. Yes, friends, if you want to go balls to the wall, there's only one place to do it: on a racetrack!

And fortunately, there are people and programs available to let you do just that. Of course, I'm referring to the high-performance driving schools and racing schools offered by people like Skip Barber, Bob Bondurant, Jim Russell, Bertil Roos, etc. If you want to find out what it really feels like to confront your abilities and let it all hang out, these folks offer you the opportunity to do just that, in a controlled situation, and at a price you couldn't touch running your own racing team. But be prepared to check your ego at the door, because all you foamlipped 'experts' are going to discover that there's a lot more to quick lap times than competitive fury and oversized glands. It's something very special to sample a real racing car on a real racing track, where you have everything going for you safety-wise, and coaching from experts whose business it is to make you a better high-speed driver. A better driver in every respect, come to think of it.

These pre-fixe racing samplers come in a variety of flavors, from 'performance driving clinics' to high performance sedans to 'racing schools' and advanced courses in real live British-made Formula Ford racing cars (my editor insists on a Brit angle somewhere in my columns). If you've never strapped on an actual open-wheel racecar, let me tell you, it will make whatever you drive on the road seem tall, fat, wobbly, and uncoordinated. And if you get a taste for the rush of speed and the delicious sense of control running solo in the schools, you can always advance to Barber's or Russell's in-house racing series, which are kind of like mini-IROC races in school-supplied and prepped cars. There is no better place to learn how it's done.

I started racing the classic 'roll-your-own' way (and indeed, I rolled my own on more than one occasion) but a few years ago (in the line of journalistic duty, natch) I got to sample much of the Skip Barber experience. This included a school, lapping days, a computer-car clinic (which shows you everything you're doing wrong and just how wrong you're doing it) and several of the race series weekends.

I came away a Born Again Barber evangelist. Nowhere will you find such close competition, rapid improvement, and sage advice. And if you add up the costs - the real costs - it's a damn sight cheaper than wiring and taping some jackalope contraption together yourself and spending every spare (and unspare) dollar and moment playing nursemaid to a hateful, ungrateful lump of iron. And when you're all through, you'll make the same discovery everyone else has: what you thought was fast isn't very fast at all. Once you discover what a car can really be made to do, and moreover what you can do with a car, those country lanes and freeway offramps are going to take on a new perspective as pretty low-percentage opportunities to go really fast. And to go half-fast and think you're doing better is the kind of self-stroking you can do without. Especially in my neighborhood.



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1989/BRITISH
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