

# OVAHC

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John & Lauren Wallace

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**Club Historian**

John Parrott

# Newslenk St Patrick's Day

## February Meeting

March 2019

Almost thirty members attended the meeting on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at the Westwood home of Skip and Joan Jackson. Presidents Jeff and John, Vice-Presidents John and Lauren, and Treasurer Cindy were away. Secretary Dale ran the meeting in their absence. He began by asking for a moment of silence to honor our dearly departed member, Bob Merten.

Dale read an email from Mark and Tammy Neumann that said Mrs. Marion Merten is planning the services on Saturday, February 23. Details will be emailed to the OVAHC as soon as they are known. He thanked Skip and Joan for hosting. (applause)

Treasurer Cindy emailed her report in and Dale read it for her. Since the Christmas party on 12-8, the account activity was credits of 21 2019 member dues of \$1,365, one Christmas party reservation of \$20 equaling \$ 1,385. Debits were for the Christmas party caterer \$1,617.14 and one Christmas party refund of \$20, AHCA 2019 dues for 21 members was \$1,050, treasurer postage of \$11, and February meeting hosts \$50.00 equals \$ 2,748.14. Therefore, debts paid, dues deposited, and our balance is very good. No reports from secretary, historian, or editor.

Delegate Don announced the OVAHC drivers' training dates are on the Saturdays of June 21 & 26, July 13 & 20, and August 3. They are posted on the web site. Come out, drive, help, and ladies are welcome. The AHCA leadership meeting is at the Doubletree in Lawrenceburg in early March. Don is asking several OVAHC members to help ferry folks to and from the CVG airport on Saturday March 8 and back on Sunday, March 9. Maybe we can get some Healeys involved for fun. If you have things for Don to bring up at that meeting, contact him soon.

Membership Sandy said we have 69 memberships for 2019. The newest is Gary and Patti Rettig who joined us locally. They are also Miami Valley AHC members and are interested in our activities. Welcome.

Activity Activator Skip passed around the Moss Motors, Feb 15 edition with one of our photos from a tech session. Kurt Niemeyer has his April 27 Spring Classic Driving Tour half page posters to pass out. Spring Thing is in the works for May. We will repeat last year's caravan with the lunch in Llangrann, KY next to the railroad tracks. S.E. Classic caravan to Little Switzerland, NC in June is in the planning stages. Kurt is also hosting the Belle-



fontaine Hill Climb Revival weekend on August 23 - 25. Skip and Bobbi are working on the Deadwood Conclave caravan / expedition for September. All events and dates will be in the Newsleak. Any activity questions, contact Skip.

Dale took this opportunity to ask Kurt to introduce his friend, Laura Zappia. Dale then asked newer OVAHC member Daniel Durbin to stand and talk about his car. He has a 1962 3000 4 seater bought from his brother-in-law five years ago. Today he brought his wife, Mariellen Durbin to their first OVAHC meeting. Dale then thanked newer members James (Timothy) Lake, John and Karen Haines, and Ken and Rosalee Campbell for attending today. (applause)

Business Manager Jake announced that the 2020 will be in Crystal River Florida and not here. The newest idea is to pick a destination for a Conclave, and then ask area clubs to step up. The OVAHC thanks the Jacobs for making their presentation in November, thus ramrodding this effort. (applause)

Tech Director Tim reported we had two sessions in January. The first was the 22nd at Richard Pratt's basement to analyze John Parrott transmission. The next was at Nate's garage for disassembly of his MGB. Tomorrow they are in Loveland at Ken Campbell's garage. Tim had a stack of tech team photos showing the value of Bob Merten over the years. Somehow tall Bob always got the bad assignment of diving under the dash to fix the wiring. Call or email Tim at hugcrv@fuse.net because we want these Healeys back on the road!

Old business: Ken Kreuter is making another order for OVAHC name badges. As part of your dues, members can get a new one if you need one. E-mail [kkreuter@fuse.net](mailto:kkreuter@fuse.net) or call 513-941-3646. We are asking that everyone please resume wearing them to meetings and events.

New business: Hazel has volunteered to organize the 2019 Christmas party. It will Saturday, December 7 in Forest Park. We will ask that everyone bring a dish and BYOB. Details and a signup sheet will follow this fall. Don gave news about the health of Tom and Nancy Hall up in Hamilton. Call Tom if you have his phone number or find it in the AHCA register to talk and cheer him up.

Tim mentioned that sadly, we need a new publisher for the hard copy Newsleaks. No one immediately volunteered. John Parrott will look into a publisher that his softball team uses.

Next meeting is Saturday, March 23 at the home of John and Lauren Wallace near New-



town. We will publish the meeting details. Secretary Dale thanked Skip and Joan for hosting. (applause) He then adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by  
OVAHC Secretary,  
Dale Ballinger "at  
your service".

## Calendar for 2019

March 22....GM Heritage center in Sterling Heights. RESERVATIONS DUE 2/25

<https://cincy.live/events/gm-heritage-center-tour>

March 23....Meeting at Wallaces, 1:00

April 27.... Spring Classic Driving Tour (details this Newsleak)

May 16-19.....Springthing, Registration this Newsleak

June 6-9.....Southeast Classic, Little Switzerland, NC

June 9.....Concours d'Elegance@ Ault Park

June 15.....Drivers Training

June 29.....Drivers Training

July 13.....Healey drive for ice cream

July 13.....Drivers Training

July 14.....British Car Day Cincinnati

July 20.....Drivers Training

August 3.....Drivers Training

August 10 ..... Dayton British Car Show

August 23-25.....Bellefontaine Hill climb revival

September 7-11.....Conclave at Deadwood SD

## Meetings 2019

March 23—Wallace

April—King \* (changed from Klein)

May—Grabow

June—Bacon/Porada

July—Cox

August—Wolfer

September—Loos

October—Parrots (bonfire)

November—Jacobs

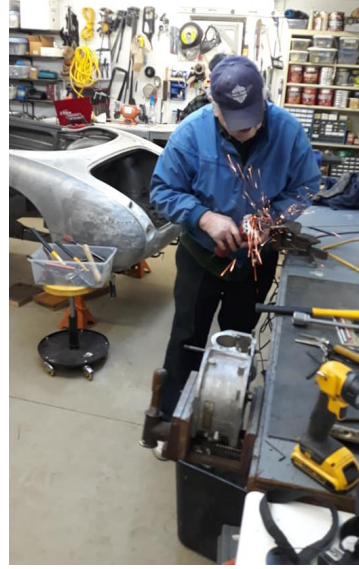
December—TBD - Hazel setting us up



# TECH TEAM REPORT



Richard, Bernie and Tim. The gears of the old transmission were except for some discoloration from the decade of being partially mud. The exception is the reverse gear, looking like some DPO dragging the transmission in reverse. So if any club member has a consider offering it to John as it is N/A from Moss. We did advise, on general principles, that all the ball bearings be replaced – even the ones that didn't sound "too bad" to Richard. From the photos you can see that we tightened the hell out of the input bearing retaining nut, until we realized that it has a left-hand thread. Bernie and Richard also assessed and caressed the fit and finish of the body panels hung on John's 3000 now that the chassis is completed. Aside from some panel gap adjustments, and possibly a consultation with a body shop expert and TIG welder on the condition of the front shroud, John's chassis is nearly ready for the next powder coat step. Scott Brown and John made a good mutual agreement for the sale of Scott's old dual carb, intake and exhaust manifold. It is nice and complete and verified for John's motor.



The first tech team session of the year was Tuesday, 1/22/19 at the John Parrott shop (on top of the icy driveway). The purpose was to inspect the clean transmission and over-drive parts and see what John needs to source for reassembly. The helpers included John's son Josh, Skip Jackson, Scott Brown, and regulars in very good condition, immersed in water and liked to stop the car by good reverse gear –

1/27 members of the Ohio Valley Austin Healey Club Tech Team converged on the garage of club member Nate Fuson to enjoy utilizing his recently installed lift to begin the restoration of his recently acquired 76 rubber bumper MGB (soon-to-be a chrome bumper).





The largest group of OVAHC Tech Team members descended on the Loveland garage of Ken Campbell today, Sunday, 2/10/19, for an initial checkout of his recently-purchased 1964 BRG Sprite with 1075cc engine and Weber carb. He had reported numerous issues that the tech team investigated; including the Weber carb possibly being for an MGB, the front brakes having noise and poor performance, the speedometer being irregular, top leaks, no horn, etc. The tech team eventually numbered 11: Richard Pratt, Bernie Grabow and son Ben, John Parrott and son Josh, Sprite owners Jake Jacobs and Nate Fuson, Dan Durban, Scott Brown, Tim Ross and our host Ken Campbell.

The Weber carb looks to be of a size used on an MGB. Ben Grabow brought the exact same Weber carb and intake manifold to the session from his MGB-GT (and donated it to the Nate Fuson MGB). But we also found a Victoria British catalog the listed this carb and kit as for a Sprite. It remains to be seen what jets the Sprite should use and what is in the carb now. The plugs are black from running rich, there seems to be plenty of spark. We set the timing a little forward 13 deg BTDC from what it had been (5 deg BTDC). We installed 4 Colortune spark plugs to watch the color of combustion – almost always very rich (orange). We did adjust the idle to a smoother level, but couldn't get the mixture lean enough. We need more expertise from a Weber person; maybe a dyno tuner with a big box of jets and an emission analyzer. Until then Ken should purchase a spark plug cleaner from Harbor Freight.

Ken will also need some new front brake parts as the RF rotor was badly scored and the pads shot. The LF rotor was not much better. The tech team was puzzled by the different caliper sizes and mfr. on the front, but per Ben, we will have Ken get new front rotors and pads for a Sprite and ensure proper fit (or not) as the next step. Nate and Scott found a missing horn ground and got it repaired and working (although with just one horn it sounds puny). The irregular speedometer received a variety of recommendation ranging from making an actual calibration (offset) chart to Richard wanting to completely disassemble and rebuild it – Ken to decide.

Ken also received a range of comments on the convertible top fit and weatherproofing. We did recommend a fit check in the Spring with some warm sunshine on it – although the Ronnie Price top shop is always a good option.

Ken will also need a new left windwing hinge and all 16 new lug nuts – too many of the current ones are stripped.

All in all – an informative first tech session, the Sprite overall looks great, should run good with carb adjustments, not too many parts for Ken's purchase list, and the usual few follow-up items for the team next time.

We were treated to coffee and donuts upon arrival and great pizza and beer for lunch.

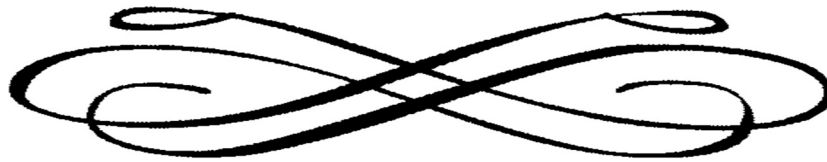


## CAUGHT IN THE ACT



You sure that  
isn't a left hand  
threaded nut?

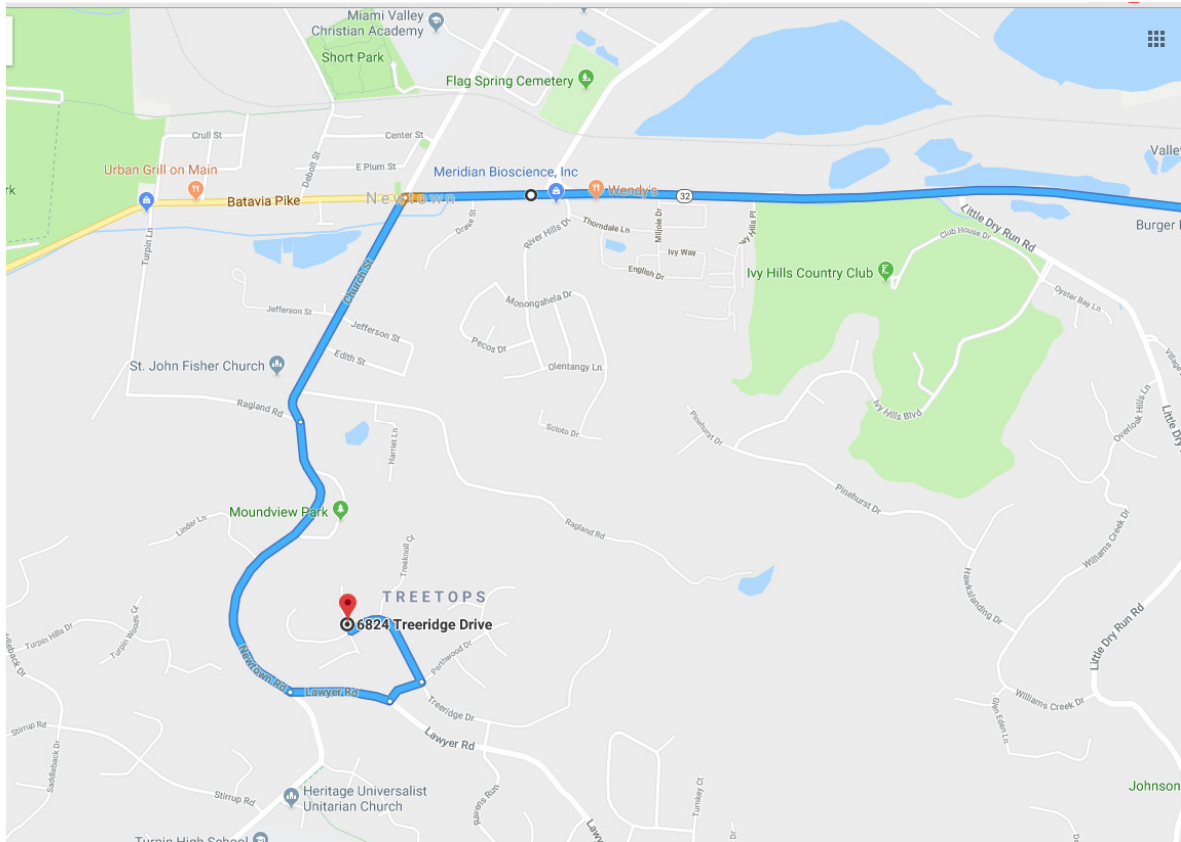
Richard and Skip put-  
ting all their might in-  
to turning a left hand  
nut...as if it were a  
right hand nut....



Bob Merten, age 73, Feb. 6, 2019. Beloved husband of Marion E. Merten, dear son of the late Edna Mae (nee Hallau) & Robert E. Merten, loving brother of William E. "Skip" Merten. He will be missed by many family members & friends. Elder Class of '63. Served in US Air Force 1966-1970. Retired engineer with ODOT. Bob was a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus, a British car aficionado & member of car clubs OVAHC & BCCGC. Visitation Sat., Feb. 23, 10 AM until funeral mass at 11

AM at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 25 E. Harrison, North Bend, OH. Burial of cremains at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to St. Joseph Church or charity of the donor's choice, c/o Dennis George Funeral Home, 44 S. Miami Ave., Cleves, OH 45002 [www.dennisgeorgefunerals.com](http://www.dennisgeorgefunerals.com)

# MARCH MEETING 3/23



John & Lauren Wallace  
6824 Treeridge Drive  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45244

Kick tires at 1:00...meeting at 2.

I-275 to Rt. 32 West. Rt. 32 to Church Street and turn left. Continue onto Newtown road. Slight left onto Lawyer rd. Turn left on Perthwood Drive. Turn left on Treeridge (look for balloons at the top of private drive off Treeridge).

House is located  
at the end of this  
private drive.  
Look for balloons  
on the street.







Registration: [www.Cincy.Live](http://www.Cincy.Live) • [www.springclassicdrivingtour.org](http://www.springclassicdrivingtour.org)

**Plan your adventure today and  
request a visitors guide at  
[www.VISITCLERMONTOHIO.com](http://www.VISITCLERMONTOHIO.com)  
or call 513-732-3600**



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## April 27, 2019

Join us for a fun day of exploring the  
ridges and valleys of Southern Ohio.

7th annual Spring Classic Driving Tour and Motor Show  
featuring classic car clubs and motorcycles.

- 8:00 AM Coffee & Queue at Scene 75 Entertainment Center  
876 OH-28 Milford, OH 45150

Each registered car will receive free breakfast for two guests.

- 11:00 AM driving tour departs. Enjoy some of the most scenic  
roads in the country with 5 route options.

Cruise along the Ohio River into New Richmond for an afternoon  
car show. Enjoy scenic views of the river, shopping, dining and  
more!

**Drive your passion and join the adventure!**

Visit our website for additional information:

[www.springclassicdrivingtour.org](http://www.springclassicdrivingtour.org)

or register online at: [www.Cincy.Live](http://www.Cincy.Live)

## NAME BADGES:

Anyone needing one (no  
charge!) should contact me  
at [kkreuter@fuse.net](mailto:kkreuter@fuse.net) with  
their name(s) as they want  
them to appear. Respond  
right away so we can get  
them out before the  
"driving season."

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**Join us May 16-19, 2019**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Car 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Car 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first SpringThing?   YES   NO

\_\_\_\_\_ Registration (prior to March 30) - \$75 (includes two adults)

\_\_\_\_\_ Registration (after March 30) - \$100 (includes two adults)

\_\_\_\_\_ Claudia Sanders Kentucky Buffet and Awards - \$35 (per person)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT DUE

Please make checks payable to: Bluegrass Austin-Healey Club

Mail registration and payment to:

Mike Schneider

3416 Barbour Lane

Louisville, KY 40241

**HOST HOTEL - Room rate \$99+ (request Austin-Healey Club rooms)**

Courtyard by Marriott - Louisville Northeast

10200 Champion Farms Drive

Louisville, KY 40241

(502) 429-9293

*For more information visit,  
[www.BluegrassClub.com](http://www.BluegrassClub.com) or  
email [Ben.Moore@mac.com](mailto:Ben.Moore@mac.com) or call  
(502) 797-5652.*



# Tech Team



2/19 members of the Ohio Valley Austin Healey Club Tech Team met at the garage of [Richard Pratt-Dad](#) to begin the reassembly of Club member John Parrot's Austin Healey BT7 transmission and overdrive.

