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NEWSLEAK

May 2025

APRIL MINUTES



April 2025 OVAHC Meeting Minutes

Twenty-seven members attended the monthly meeting on Saturday, April 26 at the Lindauer home in Walton, KY on a mostly cloudy and chilly afternoon. President Scott Brown called the meeting to order about 2:15 PM and thanked Denny and Jo for hosting. (applause) March minutes were approved as published in the March Newsleak.

President Scott thanked Denny for the fantastic 50-minute scenic drive at noon. Vice Presidents Wallace, Secretary Dale, Newsleak Editor Mary Ann, and Web Administrator Don had no report. Historian John Parrott and Membership Rosalee were away.

Treasurer Cindy reported that since the March 22 meeting at the Wallace home, credit for March split-the-pot \$43, 1 membership rebates for \$15, one local only dues for \$20 for total of \$78 credits. We paid \$5 for local only insurance fee, April hosts \$75. Total \$80 debits. Current balance is good. Tech team balance is \$1793. OVAHC business cards are on the table if you need to grab any.

Activity Activator Skip said he is holding \$630 worth of Concours d'Elegance discounted tickets for the Sunday, June 8 show. See him to buy them for \$35 each which is a savings of ten bucks. First come, first served with check or cash. VP John wants to schedule a week-day drive and lunch in Maysville, KY on Thursday, May 8.

Skip looked into the caravan to Branson for the May 18-23, 2025 Conclave and figured it is about 650 miles one way. Cincinnati to Paducah, KY for the first night on Saturday May 17. We want to eat at Patti's near Land Between the Lakes and may need to use some expressway driving to save time. Next day is 250 or so more into Branson, Missouri. More caravan details as they develop. Contact Skip for any activity questions or suggestions.

VP John Wallace is planning an overnight trip to Port Clinton, Ohio with a day trip to Put-In-Bay, Ohio for June. The plan is to start out on June 17 and depart back for home June 20th. John listed things to do there. Visiting lighthouses, wineries, a brewery, museums, shopping, and restaurants. He is developing an itinerary and you were provided with hotel contact info. Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, in Port Clinton, OH will be our base for about \$129 a night. Seven couples raised their hands to say yes.

Tech Director Tim reported on the continuing TT work on Skip's white MGA named Magic. On 3/27 we finally got it running. Skip has a new tire and wire wheel to replace the faulty one. On 4/24 Tim and VP John attached the bonnet and Skip road tested it, too. Hooray!

Ken Campbell had a TT visit to prepare Spritely for the summer. His long list was finished up and the TT had some good chili which Rosalee made. Bernie has a Tuesday 4/29 session planned for Henry the 8th. His newest to him and his eighth Healey! Tim handed out bolt-nut-screw gauges to TT members. Contact Tim to join in, or to schedule a tech session.

Business Manager/Delegate Jake said he has been in contact with Neil Anderson about Branson.



<http://OhioValleyAHC.com>

APRIL MINUTES cont.

OVAHC is doing the autocross there. For 2026 the Midwest AHC has stepped up for a Conclave in Galena, IL. Neil wanted to know if OVAHC would allow them to host it in September even though we may have started planning for our Mid America Classic (M.A.C.) show. Lauren said she and Rosalee were prepared to volunteer to head the 2026 M.A.C. and would be able to consider earlier in the year. Lauren asked if the members who helped in 2022 for Loveland would be interested in helping again. May or June are now possibilities for the M.A.C. show which may be based in Lebanon, OH. Jake will await their decision and then inform Neil concerning September of 2026.

Jake and Jeff Porada are members of the AHCA retention committee, and they are reporting success. Jake discussed the make-up of the members and their targets for the future of the AHCA website. They are looking at attracting new members, improving visibility, incorporating QR codes, and doing what it takes to be current in today's world. "Healey Braking News" is one of their successes so far. It comes to your email inbox once a month or so. They are working on auto renewals with one click for 2026 to make it easier to rejoin the AHCA. They are looking into making a folder which owners could keep in the Healey glove box and pass it on to the new owner to show that the AHCA is available to them, too. They are setting up a tech database for mechanic and repair referrals. The goal of all of this is to refresh our club with new blood. That was a major reason for the push to reduce the annual dues by making the E-Healey Marque option available. AHCA has 2440 members currently, with approximately 100 dropouts each year. The Date of Birth field which Mike Schneider added to the personal information on the AHCA web site is intended to help in our targeted marketing efforts. (AHCA is asking for your cooperation. Please sign in to the Club Express AHCA site, hover over your name, move to profile, click and fill your D.O.B. field in basic member info drop down, save and exit.)

These efforts and the make-up of the committee for retention gives Jake cause for optimism. President Scott thanked Jake for all he does as our delegate. (applause)

Old business: Secretary Dale said the Haines 58 Bugeye Sprite was sold to Ed Reiss and Hilary Cooper from Texas. Ed wants to ask if anyone going to Branson can assist him in transporting it down.

New business: Treasurer Cindy announced that for our 50th anniversary, Membership Rosalee Campbell updated our logo on the RP Diamond online store. Rosalee is planning a OVAHC group t-shirt order soon. Keep an eye on your inbox for the offer. This should also motivate us to go to RPDiamond.com and purchase other new items to show our club's pride.

More new business: Richard Pratt asked Bernie Grabow to assist him in the sale of his BJ8 on Bring a Trailer. So, if anyone in OVAHC wants to inquire about the purchase before it goes to an auction, now is the time to act. Tim and Cindy commended Bernie for his efforts in the sale of our beloved member, Bob Merten's cars on B.A.T. for Marion. (applause)

The 2024 Christmas lunch will be Wednesday, December 10th at Grove Park Grille. Lauren made the arrangements for us again. Wednesday, May 28 will be a combo ROMEO and Juliettes lunch at Miamiville Trailyard. The split-the-pot winner, drawn by President Scott, was VP Lauren. She received \$45 and the club kept \$45. The next meeting will be Saturday, June 28 at the Campbell house in Loveland.

President Scott thanked Jo and Denny for hosting. (applause) After he adjourned the meeting, we went back to snacking, socializing, and wine tasting at their downstairs winery.

Submitted by Secretary Dale



ROMEOS APRIL



ATP in Anderson for the Romeos in April.

JULIETS APRIL



Juliets at Buckheads in April

TECH TEAM REPORT

The OVAHC Tech Team consisting of Bernie Grabow, Dale Ballinger, Tim Ross, John Wallace and Ken Campbell met at the Skip Jackson shop in hopes of FINALLY getting the MGB-engine MGA running again. Since the original MGA motor broke the crankshaft 4 years ago, it has been a saga to source a replacement motor from Tim Silver. Also replace the stolen transmission, finally find and fit the proper rear engine plate that would mount a starter, change the electrical system to 12 volt negative ground, install a new water pump, alternator and aluminum radiator, etc. etc. This session on Thursday, March 27, got us converting the electric fuel pump to negative ground, hooking up the alternator, draining the 4-year-old gas from the tank, replacing the fuel with fresh gas, filling the cooling system with a little old antifreeze and a lot of water, and finding our first leak of the day. The thermostat housing was badly corroded, and the new gasket would not keep water from leaking at the top of the head. We took that housing apart and everyone set about cleaning, sanding flat, and getting new lock washers handy. Then with Tim's super silicone (ThreeBond #1207B, from West Chester, OH) on both sides of the reused gasket, expertly spread by Dale (the only one with rubber gloves, since the silicone finds its way onto everything and will not clean off), we replaced the gasket, thermostat, and housing with Bernie loosely snugging the nuts until the silicone set. Time for a pizza and beer lunch, delivered again by Joan.



After lunch, the silicone had set and we refilled the cooling system – no leaks. Time to move on to the main event – try for a start. With new spark plugs installed and starting ether handy, the motor cranked slowly (plenty of compression) and maybe tried to fire once or twice. The timing light connected to #1 plug wire showed that we had spark. When the ignition was shut off after a trial, we got a backfire. Head scratching time. When the spark plug wires were made-up we assumed the rotor turned clockwise in the distributor cap, but to check, we removed the cap and engaged the starter. Lo and behold, the rotor turned counterclockwise, meaning that #2 and #3 spark plug wires were reversed off the distributor cap. Making the switch, and with a shot of ether the next start trial resulted in a few seconds of actual running. Keeping the trials up, with full choke, the motor actually ran with good oil pressure and very quiet valvetrain. No apparent leaks. Ken kept the engine running at 1500-2000 rpm, while the rest of the team smiled and cheered! We should have opened the back door to the shop. Even with Skip trying a fan to push some fresh air into the shop, we all got our monthly dose of carbon monoxide before stopping after 15 minutes. We got our smiling group picture and then set about greasing the hubs (thanks Bernie), installing the wheels and then lowering the car off the jackstands. This major milestone was interrupted when Dale noticed that the RF wire wheel had a bad wobble when installed. We thought it just was not seated enough, but after everyone tried it, and looking closely, we saw that the entire wheel hub outer ring of 20 spokes were all loose. So we put the ancient spare wheel on and with the compressor pumping a minimum fill of air, we had the car on the ground READY TO ROLL. By this time, we had the back door unbolted and opened so Skip could get behind the wheel and make the first “drive” into the back yard (30 ft). It started and all moved okay, plenty of adjustments are still needed, however. We took more photos and videos, Skip was finally smiling, and some of us took advantage of the MG being out of the shop to collect the used cardboard and sweep up the kitty-litter that we had been crawling in the past years. Dale even cleaned the windshield for the photos. We’ll replace the bonnet after we make the next round of adjustment. We do have to reverse the wiring to the heater fan motor since with it still thinking it was positive ground, somehow the associated heater valve cable picked up a few volts and wanted to heat up and smoke – “fixed” by a piece of hose insulation to keep it from finding a ground



On 4/24/25, John Wallace and Tim Ross drove over from the East side of Cincinnati to Northland Blvd. to help Skip Jackson finally get his MGA “on the road”. Skip has been suffering through parts not fitting, replacement MGB motor snafu’s and missed deliveries, etc. etc. for about 4 years since the original crankshaft broke in two. Eleven previous OVAHC tech sessions got the replacement motor assembled and installed. The last session got the engine running and the car moving forward and backward on its own power. Today’s session was to finish bleeding and adjusting the brakes, erecting the convertible top, adjusting the carbs, and bleeding the hydraulic clutch. We also checked over the lights, replaced the battery ground strap, and attempted to adjust the hand brake linkage. The motor started repeatedly and ran fairly smooth all day, and the oil pressures and temperatures were good. We lastly reattached the bonnet and adjusted the front latch. The brake and clutch operation were both marginal, but after extensive bleeding, was expected to improve with road use. Skip drove around his shop yard but elected to not go out on the street until he gets the remounted RF tire/wheel from Performance Alignment. Maybe we’ll all get to see “MGAIC” at the monthly meeting Saturday at Lindauers’. I’m sure Skip is thankful for all the Tech Team help during this saga.



CAMPBELL MEETING IN JUNE

Just a reminder the May meeting has been cancelled due to Conclave. Next meeting in June. Also please note change in 2025 meeting—July Cox, ...September Grabow

243 County Down Lane,
Loveland, OH
513-7749-0243 (dial 8)

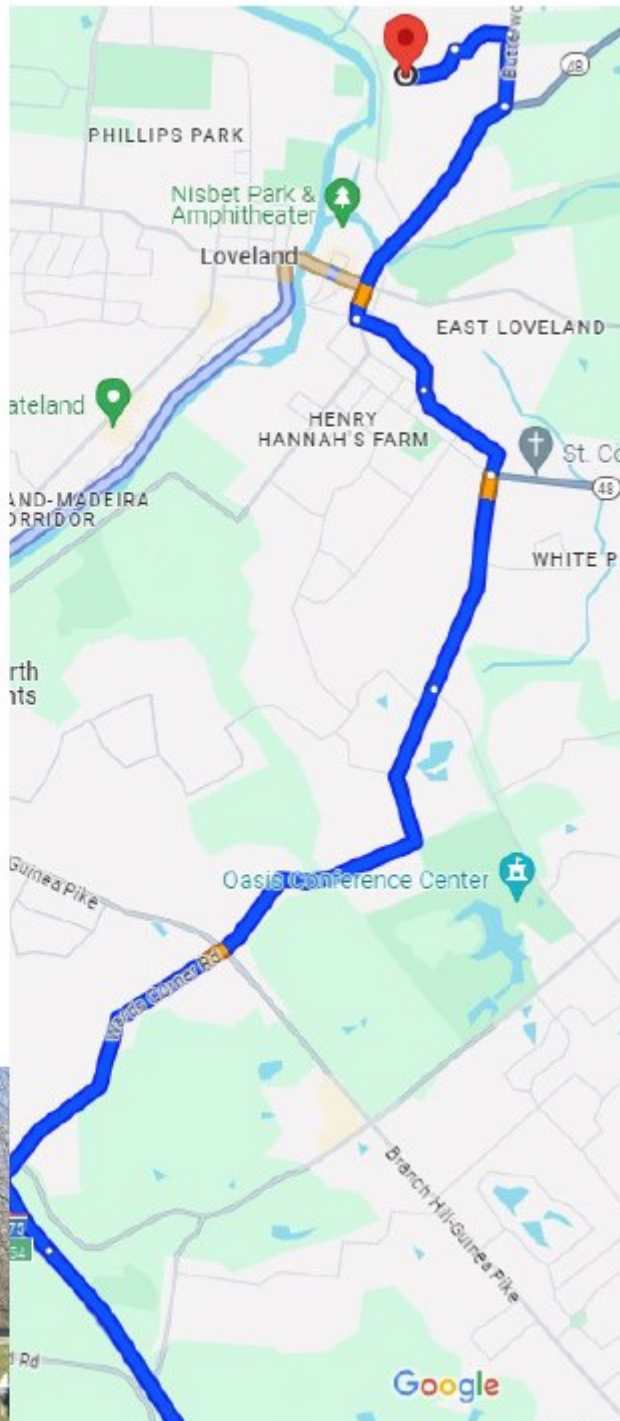
June 28

Kick tires at 1:00
Meeting at 2:00
Beer, Water, Soda
and Snacks provided
BYOB

Follow I-275 E to Wards Corner Rd in Miami Township. Take exit 54 from I-275 E

22 min (24.4 mi)

Continue on Wards Corner Rd. Take Loveland-Miamiville Rd and OH-48 N/S 2nd St/Second St to County Down Ln in Loveland



CALENDAR 2025

May 18-23—Branson Conclave

June 8—Concours d'Elegance Ault Park*

June 1—OVAHC Drivers Training at Live Oaks

June 17-20—Drive to Clinton/Putin Bay

June 28—OVAHC meeting at Campbells

July 29—OVAHC Drivers training at Live Oaks

August 23—Bellefontaine Hill Climb Revival 7

September 14-17 Mid America Classic at Hocking Hills

Sept 18-21—Southeast Classic in Franklin, TN

(See March Newsleak for info)

October 11—Autumn Classic Driving Tour

*Details on page 8 for Concours

MEETINGS 2025

May—Conclave
(no meeting)

June—Campbell

July—Cox

August—Wolfer

September—Grabow

October—Parrott

November—Slater

December—Christmas

KURT NIEMEYER'S SPRING DRIVE

The Ohio Valley Austin Healey Club and [Bccgc Cincinnati](#) were well represented on another [Kurt Niemeyer](#) spring drive. Great backroads and ending at a brewery! What more could you ask for. Thanks [Jenny Beene-Skuban](#) for letting [Ben Grabow](#) drive your Bimmer. He did not abuse it. Much.



CONCOURS d'Elegance INFO

Activity Activator Skip said he was holding \$630 worth of Concours d'Elegance discounted tickets for the Sunday, June 8 show. See him to buy them for \$35 each which is a savings of ten bucks. First come, first served with check or cash. Call 513-720-7547 or email skip.jackson@yahoo.com asap.

The OVAHC caravan will depart from First Watch around 9:30 AM on Sunday, June 8. Be there at 8:30 AM if you wish to order and eat breakfast. It is at the Rookwood Commons Shopping parking lot. 2692 Madison Road Cincinnati, OH 45208. The doors for the show open at 10 AM so be ready to leave and follow Skip. Only "CLASSIC" British cars are allowed in the corral this year.