



Proud chapter of the
Austin-Healey Club of
America since 1979.



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Side Curtain News



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Gateway Healey Association St. Louis, MO

Rumblings

As I sit here listening to April's soggy conclusion, I have time to reflect on a great month of car events. Every week-end was chock-full of activities. I would like to highlight just a few of these. First up is the All Ford Show of April 9. As you know, I enjoy and admire all sorts of vintage cars and no one can deny the tremendous influence of Henry Ford and his company on the development of the automobile. The show was dominated by Model Ts and Model As. The appealing simplicity of the Model T was one of its strongest points. That afternoon the club demonstrated a complete tear down and assembly to a running car. I had always understood "elegance" in design to be simplest and most straightforward design. Once I thought there would be a demand to simplify the maddeningly complicated autos of recent decades. Now it seems unimaginable to have men work on their own daily drivers. Heck, most cars are no longer supplied with a spare tire! The 30s, 40s, and 50s were also represented by a variety of vehicles from the blue oval, including a couple of old tractor-trailers! Each car has a unique story and I found Ford enthusiasts to be friendly and enthusiastic. I spoke to a Mercury enthusiast, whose 1957 Montclair took me back to my childhood. The Merc's pink, cream, and charcoal color scheme, along with the anodized gold concave fins matched the look of the car my father bought new when I was a toddler. The first Ford V8 of 1932 was represented by a coupe, which looked like a modernized Model A. A Lincoln Continental sported a V12! Onward to the next featured activity! Car and Coffee of April 14 was a nice get-together. A menagerie of cars, from the unique to the ordinary, were represented. The only club Healey I recognized was Jim Reiter's handsome glacier blue/cream example. Several oddities caught my eye. First was an unusually nice Porsche Speedster replica. It even used a vintage Volkswagen steering column to complete the deception. A Datsun Z and a Vega were cleverly converted to Chevy V8s. The engineering in such an undertaking is quite admirable, yet frightening. Maybe it would be easier (and cheaper) to just buy a car with the Chevy V8 already in it! (Camaro, Corvette)) But this defiance of logic defines the world of the unique and classic car enthusiast, or we'd all be cruising econoboxes! Forgive my digression.

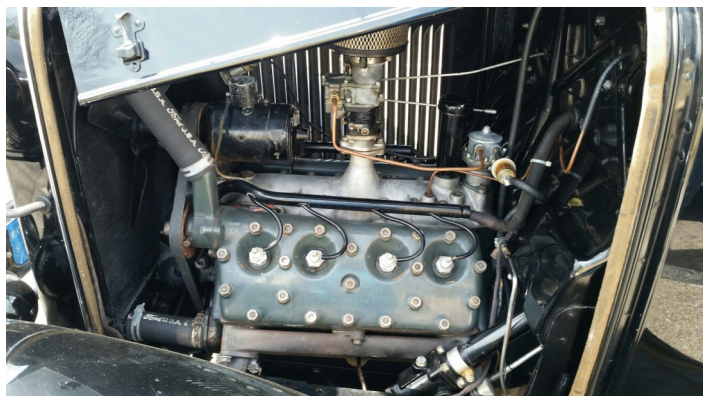


One of the signature Gateway Healey events is the annual Wash-Up, Tune-Up. This immediately followed Cars and Coffee on the 14th. Great weather, great turn-out, great fish fry (thanks to Bob M., supplier of the fish and shrimp). This year, Triumphs may have outnumbered Healeys. This is a fine marque as well, and certainly welcome. One couple from Illinois drove a TR3 over 100 miles to join in the week-end festivities! An intriguing Suffolk SS100 impressed us. This replicates a 1936 Jaguar in a rather authentic style. It was built on an early 60s Jag sedan chassis and drive train and completed in Britain over the course of five years. The owner passed away and the car was sold to a local enthusiast. I'd love to try a drive in that! A rainy morning threatened to put a damper on the Easter Car Show, arguably the top show of the year. At very least, it is the longest running car show in St. Louis history. The rain let up about 9:15 A.M. and the show turned out to be great. Healey participation was sparse, however, with a few Bug-Eyes (Frog-Eyes) and one reported 3000 that I did not see. The Triumph Club defeated the MG Club in the number of cars presented at the show: 22 Triumphs to 19 MGs. These clubs take it seriously: they actually have a trophy for this! Some unusual entries made the show special. George Dorris IV added a 1909 Dorris touring car to his family's display. This was recently found in long-term storage in Illinois, and it reportedly took little time to make it operational. The Dorris Motor Car Company was named after its founder, George Dorris, who had been chief engineer of the earlier "St. Louis" brand of automobile. A 1953 Kaiser Darrin came from Quincy, Illinois, to attend the show. It had been in the family since 1970 and was beautifully restored. Kaiser-Frazier needed a halo car with pizzazz, so enlisted "Dutch" Darrin to design a sports car. Darrin, as you may recall, was a hot rod designer that later penned some iconic 30s Packard roadsters. The Darrin was one of the first fiberglass production models and the only one I've seen with doors that slid into the front fenders! An early 50s Muntz Jet was one of 400 cars produced between 1951 and 1954. This car came all the way from Sikeston, Missouri, and was the only one I'd ever seen in person. The owner is a Muntz enthusiast and his knowledge and experience with the brand led to a fantastic restoration. Frank Curtis had a history of building successful Indy and midget race cars under the name Kurtis Kraft. In 1949, he began building the Curtis sports car. About 17 were made. I saw a white and blue one at the Easter show a few years ago. Around 1950, he sold the business to Earl "Madman" Muntz. Muntz was a southern California used car dealer and electronics retailer. You may remember his televised commercials with the catchy theme song: "There's Something About a Muntz TV". He also developed the Muntz "Stereo Pak" a four track car audio system that later led to the infamous eight track tape player. Anyway, Muntz was the king of cheap televisions, reputed to have removed parts until the set wouldn't work in order to reduce cost. Conversely, his cars were expensive (over \$5,000) and extravagant. The Muntz was a greatly enlarged Curtis which was powered by massive Cadillac or Lincoln engines. The one at the show contained a twin carbureted Lincoln flathead V8. Interiors were imitation alligator, or imitation snakeskin (as seen in this show car). A beer cooler was standard in the armrest. The body was metal, but the roof was removable fiberglass. Way cool. Suffice to say, this has been one fun car month!

Members, continue to enjoy the hobby and have fun! I look forward to a great summer of car activities. There are some real "Dusies" in store!

Richard

Ford Show



1st Ford V8 1932



First Ford with a V8



Ford Tractor Trailer



Assembling a Model T



V12 Lincoln



Model T Depot Hack

2017 Forest Park Easter Car Show



1909 Dorris



1937 BMW 328



Kasier Darrin



Muntz Jet



Muntz Lincoln Engine



Bug-eye Sprite



Pierce Arrow

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Don't forget to go to the club website!

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/gatewayhealey/>

Members and Guests at meeting

Richard Etz
Bandit

Lou Salini
Chris Kresser

Keith Bester
Tom Dunn

Jim Reiter
Dan Forguson

Meeting Minutes

(Courtesy of Jim Reiter)

Treasury Report Dan reported we have money in our checking account.

Old Business It was reported that we had three events on one weekend. Cars And Coffee, GHA Tune-Up Clean-Up and Easter Auto Show. All were fun.

New Business Lots of events coming up. Many listed in April Gateway Relay. Richard mentioned that European Auto Show will be June 4 in Chesterfield Valley. On June 10 there will be a Pierce Arrow Auto show at the Museum of Transportation.



April 2017 Cars and Coffee

Many more pictures on GHA Website



Richard's TR6 with new master brake cylinder



Jim Reiter's AH 3000



Dave Massey's TR3



Mark, from Illinois Bug Eye



Perfect Lady Friend waxing TR3 LBC



Old, old Jaguar

April 2017 GHA Tune-Up\Clean-up

Many more pictures on GHA Website



I know club membership getting older but this bad!



Keith's '62 AH 3000



Mini Moke



Jaguar Replica with XKE drive train



Boys watching Shrimp Fry



Ladies enjoying wheel chairs



Excitement is booming! Events are expanding! Eager sponsors have signed up!

Now's the time to finalize your summer plans. The [AHCA Conclave 2017](#), Return to Texas is being tailored for you. Most of the event venues are nearby. Food and pubs are within walking distance. The popularity Car Show will be just outside the door of the Hilton Waco.

The downtown attractions are something you don't want to miss. There's a free trolley downtown. Whether you are poolside, shopping, driving, learning, competing, or just enjoying yourself, Waco has it all. From the Welcome Reception, to the Party on the Bridge, to the special priced beer and margaritas at the Waco Hilton lobby bar, Date Nights, Healey Matinee at Movies, Trivia Night and other impromptu gatherings, we'll get to know our Healey friends while experiencing a small town atmosphere with first class amenities. And, instead of just heading home on Friday, you can join a tour of the Circuit of the Americas Formula 1 Racetrack in Austin, Texas.

Check out the [video about Conclave 2017](#). We'd love to have you join us. The website allows you to [register and buy your regalia](#). If you prefer, you can [print the registration form](#) and mail it in with a check to the address on the form. Be sure to check out the [sponsors](#) listed on the website. Business card ads are still available in the event program and a few select sponsorship slots are open.

Knowing you have potentially hundreds of Healey friends you know and many others you haven't met yet is the reason many of us keep coming back every year

About Conclave

Conclave 2017 is the 37th Conclave for AHCA. There have also been four International meets and one Enclave event. This annual national event has rotated around the US and Canada since 1976. It provides an opportunity to tour the countryside in your Healey alongside other Healey drivers. And knowing you have a rolling tech session and marque experts alongside in case of mishap provides peace of mind.

You are always welcome at Conclave whether or not you drive your Healey to the event. Even if you don't own a Healey you just might see a car that so moves you that you decide to get one.

Conclave 2017 Host Committee

Winter's almost gone, yes Summer's coming on. Time to start thinking about getting a new boat.
jrr

1957 Healey Marine Sport Boat 55

Specifications

Stock:	HE57-7DH
Current condition:	SHOW
Performance:	Healey Marine (151 VH 258), 60bhp, 1500 MGA engine
Transmission:	Morris Navigator
Suspension:	Independent Front / Rear
Color exterior:	Mahogany Wood Varnished
Color interior:	Red and white
Mileage:	0
Vin #:	1109
Other 1:	Length: 14' 9
Other 2:	Width: 5' 6
Other 3:	Body: 5-Seater



Description

This very rare 1957 Healey Marine 55 Sport Boat has been meticulously restored to its original grace by Classic Showcase. The restoration was complete, comprehensive and documented on a DVD to accompany the boat. All of the wood has been replaced or refinished to a beautiful showable finish. There are many, many coats of varnish that have been sanded between coats. The bottom of the boat is painted in a white epoxy, a very strong durable paint to protect the bottom. All mechanical components and systems have been completely rebuilt or replaced. The engine block was magnafluxed and hot tanked, has new pistons, oil pump, the crank was turned, new bearings, seals, timing chain, etc. The head was completely rebuilt with all new valves, guides, seals as well as the transmission. All other components have been rebuilt or replaced and nothing had been overlooked. A complete new interior was custom fitted, made and installed by Classic Showcase. All gauges restored by Palo Alto Speedometer. A wire loom was made and installed. All of the switches have been restored. New NOS steering wheel purchased and installed and finished in the original color combination. Items have been sourced world-wide for correctness and authenticity. This is a very high level restoration to contend in any boat show. A trailer for the boat will be sold with it as a package. The trailer has been restored, paint stripped to bare metal, sealed, painted white, new tires installed, wheels received new seals and bearings, hardware replaced and all electrical has been re-wired.

History

The second edition of the Healey Sport Boat was fifteen inches shorter than the first model. The larger white steering wheel was mounted on the left side of the cockpit.



Events

2017

May

May 6 It's Alive Automotive open house 9-12 noon

May 18-21 2017 Springthing, hosted by the Bluegrass Austin Healey Club in Louisville, KY. Visit their website for more information www.bluegrassclub.com

May 20 8:00-10:30am Cars and Coffee Westport Plaza. I270 and Page

May 23 7 PM GHA Monthly Meeting at Keith Bester's Garage, 115 N Sappington Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122. (314) 821-2372

May 25 RUMP Lunch. Stay tuned

May 27-Jun 4 Drive your British Car Week <http://www.britishcarweek.org/>

June

June 6-10 Pierce Arrow Society at Sheraton West Port.

<http://www.pierce-arrow.org/annualmeet/meet17/index.php>

June 17 8:00-10:30am Cars and Coffee Westport Plaza. I270 and Page

June 27 7 PM GHA Monthly Meeting at Keith Bester's Garage, 115 N Sappington Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122. (314) 821-2373

July

July 9-14 AHCA Conclave Waco, Texas See page 5 for preliminary information

July 15 8:00-10:30am Cars and Coffee Westport Plaza. I270 and Page

July 25 7 PM GHA Monthly Meeting at Keith Bester's Garage, 115 N Sappington Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122. (314) 821-2372

From the Boot

Murphy 2nd Law: Whenever something goes wrong, there is always someone who knew it would.



A special event is coming up that several of our members have attended in the past. 2017 Springthing, hosted by the Bluegrass Austin Healey Club in Louisville, KY. May 18-21. Visit their website for more information www.bluegrassclub.com

Mini tops British poll of best British cars of all time Austin Healey 3000 came in #29 Boo-Hiss ed

<https://www.hemmings.com/blog/2017/04/24/mini-tops-british-poll-of-best-british-cars-of-all-time/?refer=news>

Wanted...Someone to take over the Gateway Side Curtain News. I have done this, off and on three different times and I feel like it is getting old and redundant. We need some fresh ideas. Please, don't be bashful. Step right up and I will have you going in about 30 minutes and give you the June newsletter about 50 percent completed. I will go so far as to make you an offer. You can sell ads in the newsletter and keep the proceeds for your efforts. And, when you have the newsletter ready to send out, I will maintain the club mailing list and send it to our members. How is that for a deal? If we hear any rumbles, they can do the SCN.

jrr

2017 Cars and Coffee

West Port Plaza I270 and Page
8:00 – 10:00 am

Feb 18
Mar 18
Apr 15
May 20
June 17

July 15
Aug 19
Sept 16
Oct 21

Join the Gateway Healey Association

For information contact Dan Forguson 618.558.3060 or at aforgus@aol.com