# **Side Curtain News**





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





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#### Gateway Healey Association St. Louis, MO

### **Rumblings**

Greetings members and friends!

Well it was hard to follow up a great April of car events. The Easter Car Show and Healey Club Wash-Up Tune -Up were certainly memorable events. However, onward we go into prime driving season. On May 6, Jeff H. hosted an open house at It's Alive Automotive at its new Rock Road location. This is a really neat restoration shop with a



showroom up front and a huge work and storage area out back. There were several cars in progress on that day. A number of men were fabricating patch panels for a rusted E-Type and tuning a Triumph engine. An early Corvette (1954 or 1955) was in progress and looked quite promising: the body panels actually fit, which is rare on an early Corvette. Jeff explained that it was quite a job to achieve this fit. A 1969 Firebird convertible was stripped down and mounted on a rotisserie. The engine was neatly painted Pontiac blue and mounted on a stand. It reminded me of my 1968 Firebird convertible with "needs." I saw many British car friends, including Roy M. Roy is a long-time club member who was stricken with illness just before Christmas. Fortunately, he is now on the mend and plans to join our meetings in the future. Roy is quite a fine fellow and knows cars: in fact, he co-owned Triumph Motors in Waterloo, Illinois, when I first met him. He has moved and has a new phone number. Those members who would like to catch up may contact me for his phone number. May's Cars and Coffee at Westport was rather poorly attended, probably due to the threat of rain. My Triumph was the only car there that I considered "vintage." In spite of the fact that Triumphs are water soluble, the TR6 and I survived, with the wipers on the "slower" setting (as opposed to the "slow" setting). It amazes me that cars built in a place where it rains all the time have such small slow wipers and a quick blast of red

oxide for rustproofing! To quote Dave M. "They're miracle cars, water leaks in, oil leaks out!" And they said it couldn't be done. I met some car enthusiasts and heard about their cars and car experiences. Many people have some sort of a Triumph story. "Steve" told me about a TR6 his father had buried in his garage. They never finished restoration, but the next owner completed it. He now drives a 2011 Camaro with a supercharger on the already powerful V8. I also met a young fellow named Ryan. He had a 1990 three rotor Eunos (Mazda) Cosmo, which is apparently quite rare. He imported it from Japan as it was never sold in the US. Reportedly, you can import such a car once it reaches 25 years old even though it was never certified for US safety and emissions. Incidentally, it is right hand drive, like other Japanese home market cars. Oddly, the badges and controls are written in English. As you may recall, Mazda produced and imported a variety of two rotor Wankel engines. They are so different, it is fortunate that Ryan's father is a former Mazda mechanic! A Honda Beat roadster also caught my eye—it makes a Sprite look like a land yacht! It is fun hanging with car enthusiasts and learning their stories and car histories.

So many activities are around the corner. I'd like to highlight a few that I plan to attend. The Cobblestone Nationals is a huge show on Memorial Day. It is held at Fast Lane Classics in St. Charles. Mainly muscle cars and hot rods, it is cool nonetheless. The Memories Car Cruise in Fenton occurs the first Friday of the month and is a huge gathering as well. Most cars are rods and muscle, but I've seen a vintage Moon, a 1920 Dodge, a big Healey, an E-Type and various Sprites, Midgets and Triumphs as well. June 4 is the European Car Show at Taubman Mall. June 6-10 is the national Pierce-Arrow Convention. The host hotel is at Westport. A show occurs at the Museum of Transportation in Kirkwood on June 10. The Pierce-Arrow was an American luxury car that was often compared to the Rolls-Royce. I believe that the last one was produced in 1936. I bet this will be something to see. A Father's Day car show occurs on June 18 at the Museum of Transportation. Westport Plaza will host the national convention of the 1949-1959 Ford, Mercury, and Lincoln Club June 22, 23, 24.

Don't forget that May 27 through June 4 is "Drive Your British Car Week." Conclave is July 9 -14 in Waco, Texas (better take the air-conditioned BJ 9!). Be sure to see the Route 66 exhibit at the History Museum in Forest Park: it's cool and free and ends on July 16. Hang in there and remember to have fun, members!

Richard



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#### **Gateway's Officers**

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#### Don't forget to go to the club website!

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

#### Members and Guests at meeting

Keith Bester	Jim Reiter	Bandit	Steve Hurst
Dave Massey	Richard Etz	Tom Hartman	Dan Forguson
Ron Varley			

#### **Meeting Minutes**

(Courtesy of Jim Reiter)

**Treasury** Dan Forguson indicated our receipts and expenditures for the month about equal. We have money in the bank

**Old Business** The Easter Auto Show was fun. Weather started bad but rain let up. Triumphs out numbered the MG's so they won.

GHA TuneUp/CleanUp was well attended and all had fun.

May Cars and Coffee had low turn out because of the rain.

It's alive Open house well attended. Jeff has a very nice shop. Roy Matteson was there. Great to see him,

#### **Old Business (cont)**

Tom Hartman has agreed to be GHA National Delegate. He plans to represent us at the next AHCA National meeting. Thanks Tom!

### New Business

Drive your British Car Week 5/27-6/4

Frank Lloyd Wright Open House. www.ebsworthpark.org/

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

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

Route 66 Festival 2017: Cars and Guitars Jun 10

<u>http://www.kirkwoodmo.org/content/For-Visitors/2592/route-</u> <u>66-festival-cars-and-guitars.aspx</u>

European Auto Show June 10 http://stleuropeanautoshow.com/





Roy Matteson at It's Alive Automotive Open House What's great about picture is he drove himself.

Phyllis/Robert Hofmeister's 3000 At Easter Car show

## It's Alive Automotive Open House More pictures on GHA Website



XKE Jaguar



280 SL Mercedes



Pontiac GTO



Morgan

Paul Summers discussing Carburetors with Jeff

Jeff behind bonnet



#### **DMC** Deloren

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## It's Alive Automotive Open House More pictures on GHA Website

Pictures by Richard Etz





Jeff's Shop

Chris and Jeff

Jeff's Shop



Mystery Hemi



Jeff's Shop

Paul Summer's 3000

## May Cars and Coffee Turnout was low because of rainy weather

Pictures by Richard Etz



Honda Beat

Steve with Camaro



Ryan with 1990 Eunos (Mazda) Cosmo with Three Rotor Wankel



Hello All!

It is time for you to start planning for the 16th Annual Brits in the Ozarks All British Car & Cycle Show. Our special guest this year is well known writer, collector and consultant Andy Reid. Mark your calendars for September 14, 15, and 16. A registration form is attached.

This year we are adding two tours / drives for those who would like to come early and spend more time in the area. Thursday the 14th will feature the "Long Tour" through scenic Jasper, Arkansas and the Buffalo River Valley. There will be a lunch stop on this drive at either the Ozark Café or the Low Gap Café. Allow 3 to 4 hours. Plans for a reception or social hour at the host hotel that Thursday evening are pending, we will keep you informed. Friday is the "Short Drive" over some area back roads to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville. Admission to the museum is free (except for special exhibits) and there is a very nice restaurant at the museum. Of course, our famous Parking Lot Party will be that Friday night and the car show itself Saturday at Agri Park in Fayette-ville as always.

There is NO CHARGE to participate in either of these drives but we do need a head count. The attached registration form will provide the opportunity for you to let us know you will be joining in. We are arranging these activities to give our long distance participants more value for their trip so we hope you will take part.

We look forward to seeing you in September. You can find us at <u>www.britishironnwa.org</u>, British Iron Touring Club on Facebook, or contact Bill Watkins at <u>bwat-</u>

<u>kins@watkinslawoffice.com</u> or Jim Carney at <u>carney1081@cox.net</u> directly. Happy and safe motoring!

Brits in the Ozarks registration information: <u>http://www.britishironnwa.org/events.html</u>





The South Texas Austin Healey Club The Gulf Coast Austin Healey Club and The North Texas Austin Healey Club are presenting the 2017 Austin-Healey Conclave in Waco, Texas July 9-14, 2017

Watch our video about the Conclave.

Check out our Sponsors.

# The Texas Austin-Healey Clubs Present Conclave 2017

Home

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<u>Hotel</u>

<u>Regalia</u>

We are now taking registrations Click on the tabs above



to learn more about Waco

## **Events**

# **2017**.

## June

June 4 11-2pm European Auto Show, Taubman Prestige Mall Chesterfield, Valley

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 22 No RUMP this month. Tom Evans is still in physical therapy. Two knees and one hip in 16 months is a big deal for an old body. It may be a good idea for someone new to step up and take over the RUMP planning. Any takers? jrr

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 latest information

http://www.ahcaconclave.com/

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

West Port Plaz	za 1270 and Page	
8:00 – 10:00 am		
Feb 18	July 15	
Mar 18	Aug 19	
Apr 15	Sept 16	
May 20	Oct 21	
June17		

# From the Boot

Thompson's Rule If you can't do anything about it, don't.

Mark Morgan was in the Northwest and visited Commonwealth Classics in Vancouver, Wa. He forwarded these pictures. I think Reid Trummel owns this company. Thanks

Mark.







Wanted...Someone to take over the Gateway Side Curtain News

## jrr

# Join the Gateway Healey Association

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

