



OVERDRIVE

May, 2006

Official Newsletter of the
Central Indiana Austin Healey Club

Vol2006 Iss4



What's Coming Up

Next Meeting: Tues, May 16, Logan's Roadhouse, 4825 E 82nd, 598-1347, 6:30 pm

Springthing: May 19-21, Louisville, KY, sponsored by Bluegrass AHCA

Champagne Brit Car Festival: May 27-29, Champagne, IL, forms available

500 Race Day Party: May 28, Jon Monies/Joan Wright hosts, 1008 Nelson Ridge Road, Columbus, IN, RSVP 812 342-6091, please bring a food dish, after 10 am

Marques on the Green: June 3-4, Louisville, KY, forms available

What's Inside

CIAHCA Page 2

from the archives 3
Month of May in Indy

CIAHCA Calendar 5

On the cover: Jim Frakes captured this image of a Healey Silverstone at the 2005 Marques on the Green, illustrating that this event is one of the best multi-marque shows around the area.

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Mr. Healey's Neighborhood

Central IN AHC

<http://home.earthlink.net/~ciahc/>

Bluegrass AHC

www.bluegrassclub.com

Midwest Region AHC

[http://members.aol.com/
midwestah/club/](http://members.aol.com/midwestah/club/)

Ohio Valley AHC

[http://members.aol.com/
ovaustinhealey/](http://members.aol.com/ovaustinhealey/)

IN British Car Union

www.ibcu.org

Marque Matters Blog

www.marquematters.blogs.com/

AH Club of America

<http://www.healeyclub.org/>

April Meeting Minutes

by Robyn Porter

Date and Place: 7:00 pm, April 18 at MCL Cafeteria, Castleton

Attendees: Jo Switzer, Don Goodrich, Tom Sipher, Bob & Melanie Haskell, Jim Alderson, Randy Belden, Jim & Sandy Burck, Dick & Ruth Buis, Bruce & Charlene Gilham, David Broyles, Brent & Robyn Porter, Jim Frakes, Craig Rice

After a social hour and dinner, Jim Frakes called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm. Jim welcomed those in attendance.

March meeting minutes – were approved as published in OVERDRIVE.

Treasurer / Membership – Craig Rice reported on our balance of funds and that our membership is 61.

Calendar – Jim led discussion of upcoming Healey events including

- 29th Annual British Swap Meet and Car Show May 7 at Northeast Ohio. More information at www.northeastohioaustinhealey.com
- 22nd Annual British BASH June 2–3 in Louisville. More information at www.britishbash.com
- Conclave 2006 Ohio Odyssey June 18 by Northeast Ohio Austin-Healey Club. More info at www.northeastohioaustinhealey.com
- Cincinnati British Car Day July 9

Indy 500 party

Jon Monies and Joan Wright will host the Indy 500 party on May 28 at their home in the suburbs of Graw Bone. The race starts at 1 pm this year. The main dish will be provided; please bring a covered dish. RSVP 812 342-6091

Upcoming Tech sessions

April 29, Saturday at Switzers' house. Details will be provided via email.
May 2, Tuesday at Buis'. Dick wants to install a new fan, transmission tunnel cover and seat tracks.

Other Items

Congratulations to our President Jim Frakes and his new bride, Karen. Best wishes to the happy couple! Dick Buis was the lucky winner of a \$25 gift certificate from BP. At today's prices, that will cover about 2 ½ gal of gas! Legislative activity during this Indiana legislative session would allow antique car owners to register their antique cars with license plates that are the same year as the car.

Meeting was concluded at 8:14pm. Location for our May meeting is Logan's Roadhouse 82nd Street in Castleton at 6:30pm.

Jim and Jo Switzer hosted an MGB tech session on April 29th, attended by members Jon Monies, Jim Frakes, John Mann, Don Goodrich, Bob Haskell, Brent Porter, Craig Rice, Joan Wright, and Melanie Haskell. Rear brakes and hubs, front brakes and hubs, battery cable, handbrake cable, fuel tank and sending unit, and clutch master cylinder were all installed. Prep was also for the engine electricals to be connected once the engine is dropped in. **Below left:** (L to R) Jim Frakes and Jim Switzer. **Below right:** (L to R) Don Goodrich, Craig Rice and Jim Switzer

Photos: Brent Porter



Weird or Wonderful ?

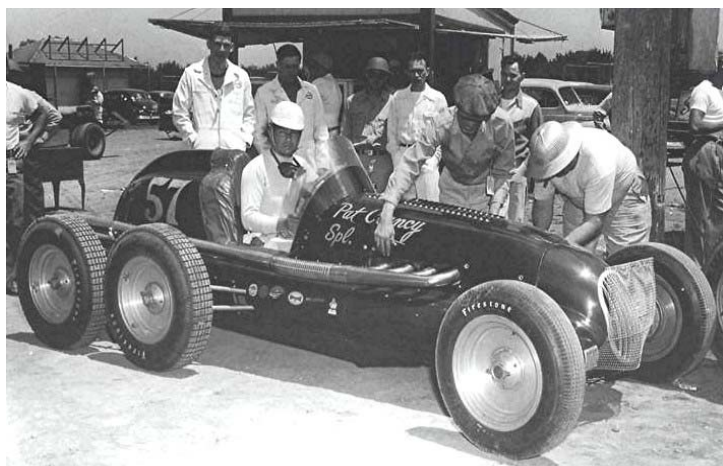
Winning *The Greatest Spectacle in Racing* naturally has attracted many an odd or innovative design over the years, especially when small independent race teams and individual mechanics could freely apply their creativity and energy in pursuit of their dream, without being stifled by restrictive formulas and by the threat of losing the support of large advertisers or sponsors. And build them and bring them to race they did! What follows are just some of the interesting examples.



Left: Entered and built by Sampson Motors, this Stevens chassis was driven to 6th place in 1940 by Bob Swanson. *I could have had a V-8!* But its engine, in fact, was a 183 cu in V-16, made by putting together (2) 91.5 cu in 8-cyl Millers in the form of a "V" over a common bottom end and crankshaft. 1956 winner Sam Hanks also drove it in 1946.

Below left: In 1948-49, the Pat Clancy Special, a six-wheeler, featured four-wheel drive in the rear from twin rear axles. Driven in '48 by Billy DeVore, it was amazingly fast down the straightaways, but lacked finesse in the corners. Pictured here is the effort in 1949, in the hands of Jackie Holmes, which failed to finish the race again. Photo: <http://www.mgussin.freeuk.com/PatClancy/PatClancySpecial.htm>

Below right: Preston Tucker, to promote the Tucker "car of tomorrow" concept, entered this rear-engine four-wheel drive Miller design in 1946. (It was the survivor of the



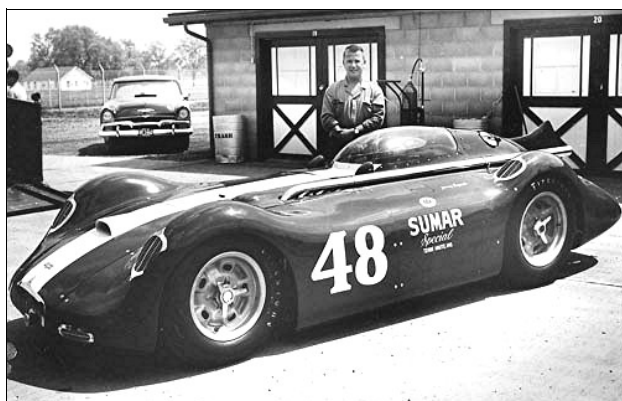
three Harry Miller had built for Gulf Oil in 1938.) The *Tucker Torpedo Special*, with George Barringer, was forced to retire after 27 laps with gear problems.

Photo: home.flash.net/~dralstin/stories/

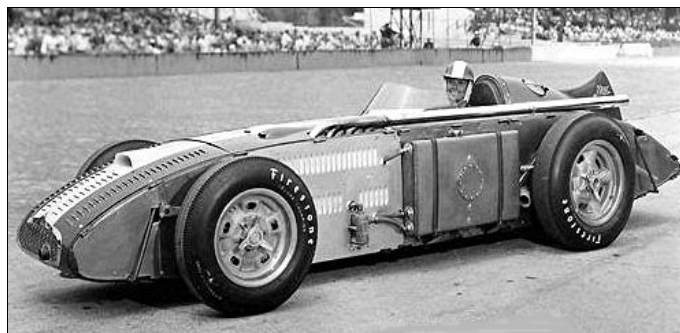
Left: Innovative racecar designer Smokey Yunick brought this "sidecar" *Hurst Floor Shift Special* to Indy in 1964. It not only attempted to shift the weight of the engine, drive-train and chassis to the left, but also positioned the driver in a control pod sidecar to the inside between the rear and front wheels. Tested by Indy veteran driver Duane Carter, Sr, an official qualification effort was finally made on the last day by rookie Bobby Johns, but he lost control and severely damaged the car, which never raced again.

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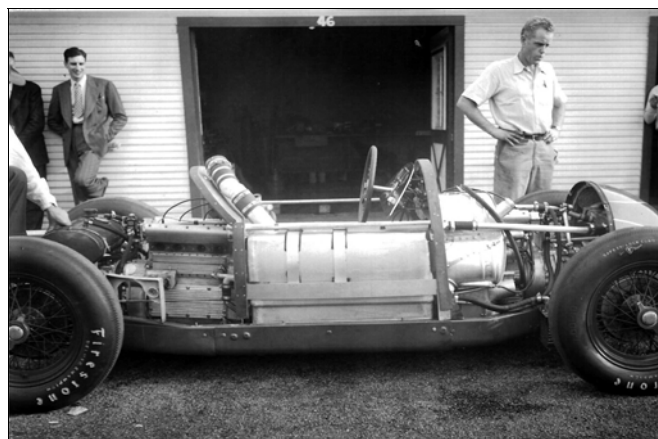
Top left: In 1955, Terre Haute native Chapman Root, whose family glass business had designed the Coke bottle in 1915, poses proudly behind his entry, the Sumar Streamliner Special. Underneath the sleek futuristic body was a Kurtis-Kraft D chassis powered by a Meyer-Drake Offenhauser engine. Wabash's Jimmy Daywalt, who was Rookie of the Year in 1953 driving for Root, found the car especially unstable in the turns and suffering from excessive drag due to air buildup inside the fenders. Finally, in desperation, the entire outer body was removed, revealing its ugly inner body panels and side-mounted oil cooler. *Top Photos:* <http://www.angelfire.com/in4/jimmydaywalt/Misc.htm>



Top right: A relieved Daywalt is shown after his qualifying run. Starting 17th, he finished the race in 9th place.



Mid left: Preston Tucker and partner Harry Miller were to build ten of these V8 Ford-powered cars for Henry Ford for the 1935 500. They delivered eight by the Race with only four making the field. All dropped out with steering problems, undetected during the short time available for pre-race testing. **Mid right:** Lou Fageol, President of the Twin Coach Bus Company who also manufactured trucks, delivery vans and even parts for the early US jet plane, the F-80 *Shooting Star*, constructed a bizarre 1946 four-wheel drive entry by combining **two** of these 1935 Miller-Tucker-Ford chassis front halves back-to-back. He dropped in **two** 91 cu-in Offenhauser midget engines, one in the front and one in the rear, each supercharged by Roots-type blowers. *Photo: IMS Official Trackside Photo Shop, cropped and tinted* **Bottom left:** Paul Russo, driver of the *Fageol Twin Coach Special*, put the rear-finned car in the middle of the front row, but crashed after only 16 laps in the race. *Photo: <http://home.flash.net/~dralstin/stories/>* **Bottom right:** Fageol, himself a long-time, noted powerboat and hydroplane driver, won the Gold Cup three times, the President's Cup and the Harmsworth Trophy. In 1955, while qualifying the famed unlimited hydroplane *Slo-mo-shun V*, a 28-ft



long, 12-ft wide, 4850 lb behemoth powered by a WWII era Rolls-Royce Merlin engine, he experienced a complete 360 degree back flip. Fortunately, the boat landed right side up, and Fageol was able to walk away from it. (Well, maybe not literally!). *Image: Cropped from an original painting by artist Jim Collier*

Other sources: <http://www.indy500.com/>; <http://www.forix.com/>; http://www.lesliefield.com/personalities/lou_fageol.htm

Jan 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Jul 1 Indy Concours Grand Prix Show
 Jul 8-9 Mad Dogs & Englishmen Fair
 Jul 9 Cincy Brit Car and Motorcycle Show
 Jul 22 IBCU London to Brighton Run

Jul 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	X	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Feb 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	X	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Aug 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	X	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Mar 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	X	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sept 9 NIAHCA Lemon Creek
 Sept 15-17 SeptemberFest 2006
 Sept 22-24 IBCU Brit Motor Days

Sept 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	X	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Apr 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	X	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Oct 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	X	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

May 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	X	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

May 7 NE Ohio Brit Swap Meet
 May 19-21 Bluegrass Club's Springthing
 May 26-28 Champagne Brit Car Festival
 May 28 Monies/Wright Indy 500 Party

Nov 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	X	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Jun 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	X	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Jun 2-3 Marques on the Green
 Jun 18-23 Ohio Odyssey/Conclave

Dec 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	X	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Dec 2 XMAS Party (tentative)