



# *Overdrive*

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## ***President's Message July 2024***

A vicious rumor circulated at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> tour of Samara, the Frank Lloyd Wright designed house in West Lafayette. The docent claimed that the famous architect owned numerous Austin-Healey Sprites. He even referenced the book "Automotive Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright" as the source. However, our own Steve Halleck researched this factoid and found it lacking. The cars owned by Frank Lloyd Wright were Crosley Hotshots. Now a Crosley Hotshot does kinda sorta look like a Bugeye with headlights mounted above the fenders, no back trunk and a woefully underpowered engine. Close but no cigar.

Nonetheless the tour was a hit with the 16 or 18 people in attendance. The temperature forecast was 96 in the afternoon so we had only 1 Healey make the trip. Steve's blue Bugeye got a photo op underneath the carport. Look for an appearance in this month's Overdrive. Thanks to Bonnie Stahlacker for organizing this event.

The Wisconsin AH Club sent an email detailing our volunteer efforts for September Conclave in Sheboygan. Along with the Funkhana which we knew about, our tasks have ballooned to include mini-golf along with Tech Session assistance. And we need to assign a liaison person for our club during Conclave. Unfortunately, Bev and I will not be attending this year. I will be undergoing surgery in late July, early August. Not life threatening (I hope!) but I will be out of commission for 2 – 4 weeks.

What a President I have been the last few months -- gone for 2 weeks in Europe, gone another week in Michigan, now this. And earlier I announced this was my last year as President. I should just glide to my non-election in October. I have spoken to several worthy candidates to become President but no takers. Steve Halleck has put forth a proposal similar to what the Mini club does, which is to operate with a board of directors. This board would be made up of current officers and meet separately to discuss issues/plans to bring forth to the remaining members at a social gathering. Then and there, these various issues would be approved or not.

Think about the future direction of the club, but mostly think of ideas for Funkhana with a Wisconsin twist – Cheese, the Packers, Johnsonville Brats, Old Milwaukee beer, Leinenkugel beer, etc. You get the picture.

See you in July.

## ***PARTS FOR SALE or WANTED TO BUY***

(Please send me any news of cars/parts that are needed or for sale.- [evetshalleck@yahoo.com](mailto:evetshalleck@yahoo.com))

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Brandon Halleck is looking for some parts for a Mk2 Sprite. Since many of the parts are interchangeable with the bug-eye, we're hoping some of these might be around in someone's piles.

- . Heater blower
- . Sprite Mk2 or Midget Mk1 passenger front fender
- . Generator pulley

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Mike Pittman has this hardtop and a convertible top available. The hardtop's Vinyl, rubber, and plexiglass are in good shape. May need a headliner.

The soft top has never been installed, so the fasteners can be placed to fit. There is one slight imperfection on the flap behind the passenger window.

He also has a Bug-eye grill with VERY minor defects available.

Contact Mike Pittman if interested. [mpitman1976@gmail.com](mailto:mpitman1976@gmail.com) 765-242-2709

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Skip Taylor's Sprite came with a LOT of copies of Healey Marque magazines. If anyone is interested, Skip will give them away.

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Terry Terrell has a BN6 for sale. He inherited it from his aunt, the original owner with 61K miles. Add is attached at the end of the Overdrive (from the Ohio Valley newsletter).

***Next Business Meeting:***

**Back to our evening meeting for July. July 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 at Big Woods Speedway, 1002 Main Street, Speedway (Main and 10<sup>th</sup> St).**



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### *Mr. Healey's Neighborhood*

**Central Indiana AHC**

<http://www.ciahc.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/CentralIndianaAustinHealeyClub>

**Bluegrass AHC**

[?????](#)

**Miami Valley AHC**

<http://sites.google.com/miamivalleyahccom>

**Mid Ohio AHC**

<https://sites.google.com/site/midohioahc/>

**Northern Indiana AHC**

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthernIndianaAustinHealeyClub>

**Ohio Valley AHC**

<http://ohiovalleyahc.com>

**Indiana British Car Union**

<http://www.ibcu.org>

**Austin Healey Club of America**

<http://www.healeyclub.org>

## ***CIAHCA Business Meeting Minutes***

### **June 8<sup>th</sup>, Monical's Pizza**

**Attendees:** Jerry Baker, Pat Bruce, Jo and Jim Switzer, Brandon and Steve Halleck, Skip Taylor, Melanie, Bob, and Tim Haskell, Craig Rice.

Jo held a quick meeting after the tour of Jerry's shop.

Jo started the meeting at 1:10, thanking Jerry and Cindy for their hospitality and the tour.

Upcoming events:

22nd, the Frank Lloyd Wright tour. If anyone is planning on going, let Bonnie know asap.

IBCU drive on July 7th. This is a drive with the MINI club, but ALL of the British Car clubs are invited to join in. The drive will be from Noblesville to Cammack Station.

We still don't have any info on Conclave and what our participation in the Funkhana entails. We may have to be ready with our own Funkhana.

Bob and Melanie went to Springthing. We were originally supposed to put on the car show at the event but ended up not doing much on it.

The Xmas party will be held on 12/7 from 2 to 5 PM in Avon this year. Details will come later, but the meal will cost \$20 each with 3 choices of entries. There will not be a gift exchange. Reservations are needed by mid-November.

August 17th is our drive down to Leanne and Ed's for the tour of the Feline Rescue Center.

Jan couldn't be there but reported the new bank is set up and we have new checks.

The Delegate's meeting in November has folks coming in Thursday for the Friday Delegate's tour that we put on (Jim is coordinating it this year). Jo and Jim used to host a Thursday night get together but the number of delegates has increased so the get together will be at the hotel this year. By doing it at the hotel, the delegates don't need to make their way back to the hotel at night.

The meeting broke up at 1:20.

### **June 22<sup>th</sup>, Nine Brothers Irish Pub, West Lafayette**

**Attendees:** Bonnie Stahlecker and David Morrison, Bev and Jim Bush, Jo and Jim Switzer, Debbie and Pat Bruce, Jan and Jeff Freers, Ruth Buis, Leanne and Ed Barnett, Melanie and Bob Haskell, and Steve Halleck

The short meeting started at 1:20.

Jan Freers reported that the new bank is all set up, with new checks.

Steve reported the MINI club is inviting all British car clubs to join them on July 7<sup>th</sup> for a drive to Cammack Station. Steve will send the invitation out to the membership.

Jim reported that he received an update from the Wisconsin club putting on Conclave. In addition to our responsibility to work with Bluegrass on the Funkhana, we're also asked to run the 'mini golf' event and assist the Wisconsin club with the tech sessions.

They asked what our theme for Funkhana is and what expenses we expect to have for the event. We still have not gotten any feedback from Bluegrass about their ideas or even who's attending. In case we can't get info from Bluegrass will probably need to set up our own Funkhana.

Jim and Bev will not be able to make Conclave this this year or participate in any August / September events this year due to a planned medical procedure.

Jo said the Christmas dinner will be December 7<sup>th</sup> at Charbonas in Avon from 2:00 to 5:00. The cost will be \$20 per person. No gift exchange.

The group decided that we'd have a regular Tuesday meeting for July 16<sup>th</sup>. Jim will check to see if Dawson's on Main is available.

The meeting ended at 1:30.

# Miscellaneous Meanderings

*By Steve Halleck*

Since we haven't heard from the Bluegrass club about their plans for the Funkhana at Conclave, it looks like we need to come up with our own version and get ready to possibly do it solo. There used to be a great website called funkhana.com, but their website owner said the newest version of the page wiped out all their content. He's trying to restore it, but right now the website isn't any help.

As Jim said, cheese and beer may be a theme. One idea I saw which was used by one of the MG groups was simple drive of a course, but the driver is either blindfolded (taking directions from the passenger), or the driver's hands must not touch the wheel and the passenger must steer. Not sure how to tie that in with cheese and beer – unless someone has access to those glasses that make you feel like you are drunk!

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Carmel is the roundabout capital of the world, with over 150 of these intersections (the number is still growing). During the Roundabout Revelry, we did NOT visit all of them since we didn't want to finish in the dark. The enjoyable drive took us around Carmel, experiencing a lot of the roundabouts while being able to keep the small group together. Dick Storrs, Bob and Melanie Haskell, Mark Smith (from the Jaguar club driving his nice E type), Brandon and I took the tour, ending at lunch at Matt the Miller's Tavern. Thanks Dick, for putting it together.



Very sparse turnout for a very good drive!

Bob Haskell pic

How many CIAHC events can a Sprite run on one tank of gas? Apparently slightly less than 2. Several times that morning Brandon and I talked about needing to stop for gas but didn't go by any good stations going to and from Carmel. We made it within a mile of home when the car came to a stop. Oops.

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June 8<sup>th</sup> was the club tour of Jerry Baker's shop. Jo and Jim Switzer, Craig Rice, Jan and Jeff Freers, Dick Storrs, Pat Bruce, Skip Taylor made it out to the NW corner of Indy to meet Jerry and Cindy for coffee, donuts, and a tour of the shop.

Jerry's shop is in a large barn that he and Cindy restored. Cindy unfortunately had to leave shortly after everyone arrived. Jerry told us how he got into metal working, landing jobs



working on the Shelby Ford GTs being built for Le Mans, open wheeled racers, and even Evil Knievel's Snake River Jump vehicle. He showed us around the shop and his many tools, the Sprite he's restoring, and pictures of several amazing vehicles he's worked on in the shop.

Jerry has done other tours of his shop with members of the restoration group he's part of. I think he was a little apprehensive about how the tour would work with the car club. He didn't have to worry. His description of how he got to work at Shelby and work on the Le Mans racing Fords sounds like it should be titled fake it till you make it – but Jerry is an artist with metal. Everyone (including the women) really enjoyed the tour! If we didn't have our lunch reservations, we could have stayed a lot longer.



The Barn, Jerry's making progress on his Sprite, demonstrating the power hammer, and showing Cindy's stained-glass work on the second floor of the barn. Bob Haskell pics.

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Early Saturday on June 15<sup>th</sup>, cars from local British Car clubs met up on the northwest side of Indy to caravan together to Cars and Coffee in Brownsburg. Brandon and I had the sole Healey, Bob came in his MGB, 4 members of the Triumph club (one in an Alfa Romeo since his Triumph wasn't running), and 4 MINIs caravanned and parked together at the event. Some



other British cars showed up separately, including several MINIs, a classic Mini, another MGB, a Jag Mk2 Sedan, and a few more triumphs. The group brought a lot of attention to our little cars. When a 6'4" spectator walked by the Sprite and said he'd never fit in it, I dared him to give it a try. He was able to get in without too much difficulty. It wasn't a bad fit, but his eyes were above the windshield and his knees were hitting the dash. It was a beautiful day for the event. Too bad we didn't have more Healeys there. We may try it again at another Cars & Coffee and at Cars and Gravy in October.



Bob Haskell pic

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A small group arrived in Whitestown for the drive to West Lafayette and a tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright Samara home. Bonnie and David, Bev and Jim, Jo and Jim, Debbie and Pat, Jan and Jeff, Ruth, Leanne and Ed, Melanie and Bob, and I took off using Bonnie's directions heading for West Lafayette via secondary roads. Our trip went very smoothly with everyone able to stay together the whole trip and arriving on time. Megan Klein joined us at the Samara house for the tour.

The Samara house tour is fascinating; the house, the stories about how the house was built, how John and Catherine Christian got Frank Lloyd Wright to design it (without having money for the house), and the stories about Frank Lloyd Wright were well worth the trip!



Bob Haskell pics

After the tour, Frank even came out to see the Sprite on the carport!

We then drove a short distance to Nine Brothers Irish Pub for lunch and a short meeting before heading home. The 94 degrees wasn't too bad in the Sprite with the bikini top on, as there were very few stops on the return route.

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When I put in the LED lights in the Sprite, I'd read something on a forum that said the LED headlights didn't cast a good, directed light beam – so I went with Halogen bulbs for the headlights. That was a mistake. The running lights looked brighter than the headlights! While much brighter than stock, the halogen lights looked yellow, which made them look odd with the other LED lights. This month I ordered new LED bulbs for the headlights and put them in - WHAT A DIFFERENCE!



There's a definite difference! Remember the halogen is much brighter than a stock bulb!

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After a LOT of tries, Brandon's Sprite is running (thanks Bob for help with the distributor). Brandon has gotten very efficient at pulling the distributor and putting it back in. We had it in and out enough that getting it running reminded me of the saying 'if you have enough monkeys pounding on typewriters long enough, eventually they'll type a novel'. It still needs tuning, but it's running decently.

Along the way, we've tried to keep track of the parts that were broken and put in wrong. It's far from complete, but this is what you get on a 'cheap' old LBC.

**Broken/bent/ruined/missing:**

Pressure plate, Throw-out bearing, clutch disk, burned dash light wiring, light switch, heater control valve, turn signal flasher, rear axle seals (and brake shoes), both battery cables, tie rod boots, slave cylinder, rear brake adjusters, brake line, handbrake lever attachment nut, radiator supports (bent), bonnet release, exhaust pipe, rear brake banjo bolts, exhaust bracket, tach, carb float bowl connector, transmission speedometer seal, temperature gauge, water pump and generator pulleys bent, missing heater system, every rubber seal rotted or missing

**Wrong:**

Master cylinder push rods too long (causing the clutch failure), horn wiring and button, ignition switch (from a Ford), no pedal return springs, crankcase vent, turn signal indicator, later model bonnet, caulk instead of gaskets on taillights, wiring painted over, engine painted (wrong color) in car with overspray

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**Bring your Healeys out on the 7<sup>th</sup> for the drive with the MINI club and the IBCU members to Cammack station!**

# ***Event Calendar***

If you know of any I've missed, please let me know! Check the web site ([www.ciahc.org](http://www.ciahc.org)) for changes. Bob is doing a great job of keeping it up to date.

## **2024 Events**

### **July**

7<sup>th</sup> – MINI drive to Cammack for all British Car Clubs, Noblesville

13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Mad Dogs and Englishmen British Auto Fair & Rally, Gilmore Car Museum, Wolfville, MI

16<sup>th</sup> – Business Meeting, Big Woods Speedway, 1002 Main St, Speedway, IN

27<sup>th</sup> – Rolling into Roanoke, Roanoke, IN

### **August**

3<sup>rd</sup> – 39<sup>th</sup> British Car Day, Dayton, OH

10<sup>th</sup>, IBCU British Car Day, Zionsville, IN

17<sup>th</sup> – Exotic Feline Rescue Center Tour, Center Point, IN

### **September**

2<sup>nd</sup> – Red Bridge Park Car Show, Cicero, IN

7<sup>th</sup>- Artomobilia, Carmel Arts District

14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – Columbus Scottish Festival – European Car Show, Columbus

13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> – The Healey World Challenge vintage races, Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI

15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> – Conclave, Elkhart Lake Racecourse & Blue Harbor Resort, Sheboygan, WI

### **October**

4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> – Newport Antique Auto Hill Climb, Newport, IN

12<sup>th</sup> – Cars and Gravy, 38<sup>th</sup> St (only one this year)

12<sup>th</sup> – Sleepy Hallow Car Show, Vevay, IN

26<sup>th</sup> – Halloween Party and Business Meeting, Bush Barn, IN

### **November**

15<sup>th</sup> – AHCA Delegate's Tour, TBD

16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Fall Delegate's Meeting, Plainfield, IN

### **December**

TBD – Healey club Christmas Party

# Healeys for Sale

One owner, my aunt, bought it new. 61,000 miles. Runs and drives fine. Jeff Porada did some work on it in 2020. Asking \$38,000. Call me at 812-655-1198 with any questions. Terry Terrell



Bernie and Richard went to look at this car—took pictures of the undercarriage and drove it—you can call Bernie to have him send the pictures and give a review of the drive if you are interested.