

# **Overdrive**

## **Contents:**

Officers and Contacts	2
Conclave Update	4
Jim Porter Memories	9
From the Editor	10
Event Calendar	13

# PARTS FOR SALE or WANTED TO BUY

(Please send me any news of cars/parts that are needed or for sale.- <a href="mailto:evetshalleck@yahoo.com">evetshalleck@yahoo.com</a>)

Former club member THOMAS SIPHER has put his '61 BT7-1 up for sale. Pictures and information are found at <a href="https://photos.app.goo.gl/5au5bsQj6TL2rABD6">https://photos.app.goo.gl/5au5bsQj6TL2rABD6</a>.

----

#### 2025 CIAHC Officers and Contacts

**Board:** Ed Barnett

420 S Byerly Rd, Freedom, IN 47431

812-821-2008

seahorsevet@gmail.com

**Board:** Belden, Randy 203 Harbour Circle, Fishers, IN 46037 317-432-1647

rbelden49@gmail.com

**Board Leader:** Jeff Freers

6935 Park Lane, Brownsburg, IN 46112

547-361-1783

jjfreers@yahoo.com

**Treasurer, Board;** Jan Freers 6935 Park Lane, Brownsburg, IN 46112 547-612-7955 jjfreers@yahoo.com

National Delegate, Webmaster, CIAHC Board: Bob Haskell

1570 Saylor Street, Zionsville, IN 46077 (317) 345-5469

rchaskell@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor, Membership, CIAHC Board: Steve Halleck 6125 Redcoach Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46250 (765) 621-7287 evetshalleck@yahoo.com

**CIAHC Board:** Jo Switzer 6720 Fieldstream Dr, Avon, IN 46123 317-501-7091 joswitzer@earthlink.net

**CIAHC Board:** Bonnie Stahlecker, 6819 Sunrise Dr, Plainfield, IN 46168 (317) 979-6105 bstahlecker@abcglobal.net



# Mr. Healey's Neighborhood

**Central Indiana AHC** 

http://www.ciahc.org

https://www.facebook.com/CentralIndianaAustinHealeyClub

Bluegrass AHC

Facebook: Bluegrass Austin Healey Club

Miami Valley AHC

Mid Ohio AHC

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

Northern Indiana AHC

https://www.facebook.com/NorthernIndianaAustinHealeyClub

Ohio Valley AHC

http://ohiovalleyahc.com

https://www.facebook.com/OhioValleyAustinHealeyClub

Mid West AHC

https://www.midwesthealeyclub.org/

Indiana British Car Union

http://www.ibcu.org

Austin Healey Club of America http://www.healeyclub.org

# Next Club event:

- 28<sup>th</sup> Healey Club Disaster Drive Pat and Debbie are putting on a drive for us that includes the location of two air disasters and other points of interest. Pat always puts on good drives! We'll meet at Southeastway Park Club House (5624 Carroll Rd, Indianapolis) for a 10:00 departure. We'll end up at Kopper Kettle in Morristown for lunch around 1:00.
- 21<sup>st</sup> While not a club event, The MINI Car Club is inviting all British Car clubs to join them for a drive to enjoy the food, ice cream, and nostalgia of Cammack Station. Meet at the Greenfield Wallmart (1945 N State St, Greenfield) for a 10:45 drivers meeting and an 11:00 start.

# **Conclave Report**

Bonnie Stahlecker reporting

Eight of us (Bob and Melanie Haskell, Ed and Leanne Barnett, Skip and Kris Taylor, David Morrison, and myself) traveled down the road to Branson, Missouri, to attend the Austin Healey Club of America Conclave 2025, hosted by five clubs. I had never been there before and was astonished at how beautiful the landscape was despite its extremely hilly terrain. The only flat land I saw was the parking lot where the car show was held. Speaking of the car show, Skip Taylor's car took 3rd place in the Bugeye Sprite class, and David Morrison's car took 1st place in the Big Healey 3000 class. Later, at the banquet, we were surprised to learn that David's car took Best of Show. The car show hosts decided this year also to award Best Boot and Best Engine Bay. David's car won the Best Engine Bay award.

The Conclave featured a couple of beautiful cars: a 1951 Nash-Healey and a 1960 Sprinzel Sebring Sprite Coupe. The Nash-Healey is reported to be Donald Healey's personal vehicle and is currently owned by Paul and Pam Friskopp. Paul drove his car into the lobby and back out again with only half an inch of clearance.

The hosts held a Tour de Branson, where they handed out small gifts at sites along a rally course with the world's worst set of directions. Never mind, as Ed Barnett and David Morrison receive additional special gifts at the banquet dinner. Ed also represented himself and our club by driving the Gymkhana.

We had beautiful weather each day, and two fantastic thunderstorms occurred during the night when we and the cars were all safely indoors. The hotel, sitting high on a hill overlooking the lake, was grand. New this year, at least to me, the hosting clubs offered donuts, juice, fruit, and coffee each morning in the hospitality room. A nice change from having to purchase the hotel's breakfast each morning. They even took the breakfast goodies to the car show. Other highlights included the Dolly Parton Stampede show, the buffet lunch at the Keeter Center, and the slow-motion challenge.

The news they sent us home with is that there will be a 2026 conclave. The dates and location are September 13-18 in Galena, Illinois—more information is available at www.conclave50.com.

Stephen Myers of This Week With Cars was one of the sponsors of the Conclave. He created a 33-minute video of the event and posted it on his YouTube channel. He did a great job covering all the activities. The first minutes of his video show the Nash-Healey entering the lobby, and the middle has an excellent rundown of the car show, among other events.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbYK9thx\_4I



Skip and Kris keep a close eye on the action.



Leanne and Ed dress to match their car.





Ed driving the gymkhana.

David with award.



Banquet buddies.

1951 Nash-Healey

# Jim Porter memories

#### James Porter

Oct. 1947 – May 2025

I bought my project cars in 1986. I went to the All-British Car Show that was held at the Latvian Community Center, '88 or '89, that's where I learned of the Central Indiana Austin Healey Club and I joined that day. The first Healey event I attended was a Tech Session at Jim and Sue Porter's house in New Palestine. Jim was well on his way to converting his racing Bugeye for street use.

I believe Jim said he bought the racecar used for \$800. He raced it several years including going to Runoffs. When I was growing up my family used to park outside the fence at the Southeast corner of IRP by the esses to watch the races, SCCA did not allow spectators to watch from inside of IRP. I unknowingly watched Jim race by on several occasions. My Dad would always point out the Bugeyes.

When Jim worked on his racecar, he would pull the engine and transmission by connecting a chain to the valve cover bolts, slide a 2 x 4 through the chain, reach down and curl the engine and transmission out of the car in one go.

Jim's car was unrestored and for a racecar it was mostly original. Jim's car drew a lot of attention whenever it showed up at events. Jim later updated the car with a 1275, Weber downdraft, 3.90 rear end and an early 5 speed transmission conversion. Jim once gave me a spirited ride around the block in it.

Jim's father fought in WWII and was severely wounded. Jim said when they put his Dad back together, he was 4" shorter. Jim said his Dad tried to smuggle a Luger inside his body cast when he was shipped home, but they found it a took it away. Jim served in the Army in Vietnam. Jim was a wireman in the Signal Corp. and was wounded.

Jim worked in the Engineering Department at Jenn-Aire on Shadeland Ave. When the Shadeland Ave. plant was closed, He transferred to a Jenn-Aire facility in Tennessee. When he retired, he and Sue moved to Florida.

Besides his Bugeye, Jim restored a Ford Galaxie 500 and recently completed a Big Healey restoration. Jim was a past President of our Club and helped organize our early Septemperfests.

The memories come flooding back, I hope I have not made any errors in the retelling. Condolences to Sue, Brent, Dawn and the rest of the family.

Pat Bruce

# Miscellaneous Meanderings

On the 17<sup>th</sup>, the IBCU 20+ cars met up for a short drive to Indianapolis Cars and Coffee. Four cars showed up from our club for the show and the drive to lunch afterwards. Dick Storrs, Randy & Janet Belden, Brandon, and I arrived for the early start. Janet was hoping some other wives in the club would show up. When she saw that wasn't the case, she called an Uber and went home.

Cars and Coffee had a HUGE gathering of cars. While mostly newer models, there were some very interesting and <u>odd</u> vehicles on display (including a pink winged musical van that begged the question 'Why?'). Megan Klein (who joined us for our tour of the Frank Loyd Wright house in Lafayette) saw the gathering and stopped by to talk to us for a while. It was good to see Megan again.

Our group made an exit together for a drive to Ford's Garage in the Hamilton Town Center. The short drive included a dozen roundabouts (to be expected in Fishers, Giest, and Noblesville areas). Unfortunately, there was heavy traffic in some areas and Brandon got separated from the rest of us. Rather than trying to catch up, he took a direct route and beat us to the restaurant.

\_\_\_\_

The week before the 17<sup>th</sup> was a scramble, as Brandon's ignition switch had failed, and I had a leaking wheel cylinder. Brandon's switch was not stock and had been jury rigged with what we think was a Ford ignition switch. When we installed the correct switch and the pull starter, we weren't getting power to the distributor. After spending time with three different wiring diagrams (each showed different wiring), we tracked the issue back to a bad power lead to the switch that the prior owner had bypassed with a direct wire to the battery.

On my car, I had a spare wheel cylinder and washers for the banjo bolts, but no replacement brake shoes. Fortunately Jeff Porada at Winner's Circle was able to get me shoes in 2 days. On the 16<sup>th</sup> we had both cars ready for Saturday.

During the drive, I noticed a clunking sound in the rear end getting quite loud so after the drive I jacked up the rear end to find a u-joint going out on the Sprite. While under the car though, I noticed the rear tire again had brake fluid on it. Pulling the drum, there was no fluid inside the backing plate. It was leaking from under the boot on the back side of the wheel cylinder. My first thought was the banjo bolt connection was leaking, so I put a new one with new copper washers and tightened it up again. I still had a leak but it's not at the banjo bolt connection. No leakage at either of the two points where brake fluid can leak on a wheel cylinder, but I have a leak. Another wheel cylinder was ordered which fixed the problem. I hung onto the old wheel cylinder for later close inspection.

The u-joint was a different problem. Since I installed the 5-speed, the driveshaft is not a stock one. It took a while to get in contact with Frontline Development in England to find out that the u-joint is a stock Spridget one. The replacement part was shipped right away from Connecticut, but the holiday delayed the post office getting it to me – so I drove the MINI on our revolutionary war drive. Bob helped me by installing the new u-joint on the driveshaft.

\_\_\_\_

In Franklin Kroger parking lot on the morning of the 31<sup>st</sup>, club members showed up to begin the drive to the Revolutionary war graves. Bev and Jim Bush, and Dick and Sherry Storrs were the only ones driving their Healeys on the first leg of the trip, but Bob Haskell, Jo and Jim Switzer, Ruth Buis, Debbie and Pat Bruce, Bob Haskell, Bonnie Stahlecker and David Morrison and I showed up in our modern cars.

While we were gathering, another car showed up, and we met Greg Kostrzewsky. Greg had heard about our drive and wanted to stop by and meet people. Greg has just purchased a BT7 tri-carb and is starting to get it running. I gave him one of our club's business cards so he can join the club.

After leaving Franklin, we took a short drive down US 31 to a cemetery in Edinburgh. We weren't there to see any graves, but to pick up Kris and Skip Taylor in their bugeye. We then took a short drive to an unnamed cemetery in the country where the Ensley family has several headstones, including Benjamin Ensley who served in the New Jersey Wagoner Continental Line in the Revolutionary war.

Skip then led the drive towards Columbus to the Hawpatch Liberty Cemetery where the graves of Solomon Tracy and Thomas McQueen are found. We then travelled to the Otter Creek Golf Course for a very nice lunch. At the lunch, Skip passed out info on the two men who's graves we had just visited. Thomas McQueen had a particularly bad time during the Revolutionary War. He was part of an expedition trying to end Indian attacks on settlers. Unfortunately, the British and Indians found out about the expedition and killed and captured many of the men. Thomas endured executions of several men in his group and physical beatings. After about a year he was able to escape from the Indian captors – to the British. After 6 months as a British prisoner, he escaped again and made it to about 100 miles from his home – only to be captured again by the Indians who sold him to the British. The British put him in leg irons to prevent escaping. He was offered his freedom in exchange for fighting for the British. He refused, remaining a prisoner until the end of the war.

\_\_\_\_

So far this season, the club has put on drives for the members. We have a LOT of members with Healeys that are currently not ready for the street, and some members don't have Healeys. We want to start having our old 'meetings' again, where we meet for food and fellowship without the drives. That's where we can use some member input. Know a good restaurant that could hold 20 or so people (hopefully in a more private area) that would be open to having our group attend? We normally do evenings, but if someone has a good breakfast spot, we could do a weekend morning get-together. Let me know your ideas and we'll try to get something set up!

## CIAHCA Calendar 2025

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

#### June

**7th** – Indy Old Motors Cars and Coffee – 8:00 – 11:00, Factory Arts District, 1125 Brookside Ave, Indianapolis.

7th - British Bash 2024 Louisville

The 40th annual British Bash will once again be held on the tree-shaded lawn of the St. Joseph Children's Home, 2823 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206. Registration 9 AM - 11 AM, with awards presented around 3:30 PM. Door Prizes, Raffles, Silent auctions, food provided by Scouts and models by Elcara Photography.

15<sup>th</sup> - Father's Day Car Show Forest Park, Noblesville Hosted by Central Indiana Vintage Vehicles

#### 21st - 36th Annual Michiana British Car Show

The Michiana Brits British Car Enthusiasts Club invites you to join them at their Michiana Brits 36th Annual British Car Show. This highly popular all-marque show is on the beautiful campus of Saint Mary's College on the north side of South Bend, IN, across the street from the University of Notre Dame. Judging will be by popular vote, with awards given for each class and Best in Show. 10:00 - 3:00 Hosted by Michiana Brits

- **21**<sup>st</sup> MINI Car Club IBCU drive to Cammack Station
  - The MINI Car Club is inviting all British Car clubs to join them for a drive to enjoy the food, ice cream, and nostalgia of Cammack Station. We'll meet at the Greenfield Wallmart (1945 N State St, Greenfield for a 10:45 drivers meeting and an 11:00 start. The drive will be approximately 60 miles and should take under an hour and 45 minutes.
- 28<sup>th</sup> Healey Club Disaster Drive Pat and Debbie are putting on a drive for us that includes the location of two air disasters and other points of interest. Pat always puts on good events! We'll meet at Southeastway Park Club House (5624 Carroll Rd, Indianapolis) for a 10:00 departure. We'll end at Kopper Kettle in Morristown for lunch around 1:00.

# July

**5**<sup>rd</sup> – Indy Old Motors Cars and Coffee – Factory Arts District, Indianapolis.

12th - 13<sup>th</sup> - Mad Dogs and Englishmen British Auto Fair & Rally

The rally is on the 12th. The car show is at the Gilmore Car Museum, Wolfville, Michigan on the 13th. We'll do a drive up, staying in Kalamazoo on Saturday, then head to the show Sunday morning. If you haven't been to this show, it is worth the drive. It takes place on the grounds of the Gilmore Car Museum, which is a collection of museums on beautiful grounds. They have an autocross during the event if you want to play with your car. This is a well-

attended event with this Jaguar this year's featured mark. We may also do a tour of the Air Zoo (air museum) in Kalamazoo. Details to come.

Hosted by Mad Dogs and Englishmen

26th - Rolling Into Roanoke

10 AM - 3 PM Roanoke, Indiana

#### **August**

2<sup>nd</sup> - 40th Annual Dayton British Car Day 9am - 4pm

Eastwood MetroPark, 1385 Harshman Rd., Dayton, Oh. https://britishcardaydayton.com/

**2nd** – Indy Old Motors Cars and Coffee – Factory Arts District, Indianapolis.

**2**<sup>nd</sup> – CIAHC Art Museum Drive. Bonnie is working on details for a trip to Lafayette to view her artwork at the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette, followed by ice cream.

9<sup>th</sup> - 36th Indy British Motor Days

The 37th annual Indy British Motor Days will be held at Lion's Park in Zionsville, just one block from downtown on E. Sycamore Street (about 116th). Your family will enjoy browsing the galleries, antique shops, specialty stores and the farmer's market. Lunch may be available on site, but there are also a variety of restaurants on Main Street offering breakfast and lunch. Hosted by the Indiana British Car Union. Registration at IBCU.org.

## September

**TBD-** Red Bridge Park Car Show 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. 697 W. Jackson St., Cicero, Indiana For more information, contact Rob Wilson

#### 6th - Artomobilia

ARTOMOBILIA focuses on display and appreciation over competition and although each of the automobiles is truly magnificent, this event is not just about cars; it's about the art and automotive enthusiasts. This event embraces the essence automotive art and design by uniquely combining the artwork of local galleries and artists, with the presentation of significant automobiles and their iconic design.

Carmel Arts & Design District

Carmel, Indiana

## 11th - 14<sup>th</sup> - Encounter 2025

The <u>Austin-Healey Sports and Touring Club's</u> annual, multi-day meet called Encounter is open to all Healey owners and enthusiasts. The AHSTC regions take turns hosting the event, which features a popular vote car show, judged concours, a rallye, tech sessions, a gymkhana and a flea market. On September 11-14, 2025, the event will be in the Poncono Montains of northeast Pennsylvania, headquartered at Camelback Resort in Tannersville, just north of Stroudsburg. The <u>web site</u>.

#### **TBD** - British Car Day

Cincinnati, Ohio

Hosted by British Car Club of Greater Cincinnati

### 13th - 14<sup>th</sup> - Columbus Scottish Festival

Bartholomew County Fair Grounds, Columbus, IN

the festival has an European car show on each day.

## 14th - 16<sup>th</sup> - Mid America Classic

Hocking Hills State Park, Logan, Ohio. This is the replacement for September Classic.

Hocking Hills is a beautiful park southeast of Columbus.

Hosted by Mid Ohio Austin-Healey Club.

#### 18th - 21st - Southeastern Classic XXXVIII

Franklin, Tennessee. This is always a very good event.

Hosted by Middle Tennessee AHC

20th - British Car Day on the River

Old Lock and Dam Park, Newburg, IN

Hosted by Southern Indiana Region British Car Club

# 28th - October 2<sup>nd</sup> - <u>Summit 20</u>25

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the New England club in Falmouth, MA. Hosted by the Austin-Healey Club of New England.

#### October

## 3rd - 5<sup>th</sup> - Newport Antique Auto Hill Climb

Newport, Indiana

## 11th - Sleepy Hollow Car Show

The Cruise IN begins at 6PM on Friday. The car show is on Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Vevay, Indiana

TBD - Cars & Gravy

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM @ The National, 215 E. 38th St, Indy.

# **TBD - Halloween Party and Elections**

back to the red barn at Jim and Bev Bush's.

#### **November**

TBD - AHCA Delegates' Tour -

**TBD** - AHCA Fall Delegates Meeting

Holiday Inn Indianapolis Airport, 8555 Stansted Road, Indianapolis.

## December

**TBD** - Christmas Party