



Golden Gate

# HEALEY HAPPENINGS



Golden Gate Austin Healey Club, Inc. Chico, CA Vol 12, No. 4 May 2010

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### Event Report

## LODI WINERY TOUR

by Loren Parks

A beautiful day was already underway when Austin Healeys and various other vehicles began to assemble in Rio Vista for a winery tour organized by David and Jerri Nock. By the time I met the group at Mondavi's Woodbridge Winery in Acampo, we had 11 Austin Healeys, 3 other cars, and 26 people including Club members and friends. The Woodbridge staff was especially accommodating, and



McHealeys assemble in Rio Vista



▲ Arriving at Mondavi

the wine flowed a little more freely than normal thanks to Dave Nock's status as a Wine Club member. Dave led a toast to his father Norman, who he said would have encouraged him to carry on with the tour and the Austin

### Why isn't the current issue of Healey Happenings on the Web Site?

The Board of Directors decided to post HH with a delay of three months after issuance for the purpose of encouraging membership. It is suspected that people who do not participate in Club events have little incentive to join the Club if the newsletter is free and immediately available.



▲ Here's to Dad!

Healey fraternity despite his recent passing.

Continued on page 2

**Lodi Winery Tour (Continued from page 1)**

Our Club members responded to the hospitality by purchasing plenty of wine at what were bargain prices compared to the Napa Valley, plus numerous items from the gift shop ranging from jewelry to a beautiful picnic basket set. I'm sure that Mondavi Woodbridge will be glad to see us return.



From Woodbridge we drove a mile or so down the road to Heritage Oak Winery, where we were hosted by Tom and Carmela Hoffman—the fifth generation owners of the property. Tom spent over 5 years teaching in Equador and Peru, and he met Carmela in Peru. Heritage Oak Winery stands on land that has been worked and lived upon by Tom Hoffman's family for nearly 150 years. In the 1860s, Tom's great-great-grandfather, James Christian (born 1827), homesteaded a 400-acre farm along the Mokelumne River near Lockeford. There is much more history, which can be read on their web site [www.heritageoakwinery.com](http://www.heritageoakwinery.com).



**Tom & Carmela**

Tom related the brief history of the winery, provided an explanation of the processes and products involved in the business, and treated us to an exceptionally fine tasting of the family wines. The contrast in wine processing between Woodbridge, which produces a gazillion cases of wine, and Heritage Oaks, which produces numerous distinct products in the dozens of cases, is stunning. For the first time I learned the difference between crushing and pressing grapes, which I won't elaborate herein (look it up on the internet). Woodbridge crushes; Heritage Oaks presses. Following the tour, we lunched at the picnic area.



**Tom Hoffman describes wine making**



**Continued on page 3**

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**Lodi Winery Tour (Continued from page 2)**



After lunch we drove a few miles to **Vino Con Brio**—another small, family-run business. This winery is diversified into special events (e.g., weddings) and a bed-and-breakfast inn. Following a brief tasting here, we moved on to the last stop—**Delicato Family Vineyards**.



The tasting at **Delicato** was augmented by a fine selection of food arranged in a special room for the Club by Dave and Jerri Nock's daughter Jennifer. Thanks to the Nock family for arranging this fine tour!



**Participants**

- Marty Allen
- Cully & Julie Anderson
- Gary & Harriet Anderson
- Lee & Susie Bardellini
- Ginnie Klein
- Krissy Klein
- Nick & Sandy Klein
- Dave and Jerri Nock
- Jim & Ida Morton
- Loren & Diana Parks
- Jorge Quinteros
- Robert & Marie Louise Sardeman
- Linda & Kern Tilley
- John & Cathy Turney
- Glenn & Vicki Zumwalt



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**Jorge Quintero and Nick Klein at Delicato**

## In Memoriam

# Norman Nock

It is with much sorrow that we announce the passing of Norman Nock, a lifetime member of both the Austin Healey Club of America and Austin Healey Club USA. He passed away on April 13, 2010, at home, surrounded by his family.

As a teenager in Birmingham, England, Norman served his apprenticeship with Lucas in the racing division, and had the honor of working on Juan Fangio's V16 BRM racecar, keeping the complicated ignition system working smoothly.

He went to Canada as the Lucas representative. While there, Norman met and married his wife Shona. In 1957, they moved to San Francisco where he opened his first shop in 1958.

Norman's first Healey was a BN4 that he used as a daily driver up until 1968. In 1971, Norman had the opportunity to open a new British car dealership, so he packed up his family, which now included son David, and daughter Sheila, and the business, and moved to Stockton, California where he opened British Car Specialists, which remains an ongoing and successful business.

In 1979 he purchased a worn-out 1956 BN2 that he and Shona restored at home. They drove this car to many Healey meets all over the Western United States, putting on over 100,000 miles. Norman also restored a 1962 BN7 Tri Carb at home, putting many miles on that car as well.

As the production of new British sports cars came to an end, he put all of his efforts into keeping the cars that he loved so much on the road, so that everyone could enjoy them. Norman shared his knowledge willingly with everyone, writing numerous technical articles and even producing his own book of the collection of these articles. You could always expect a large audience at one of Norman's many tech sessions.



**Aloha, Norman**

Norman stayed active right up until the end, riding his bike, snow skiing, playing the piano and, along with Shona, playing an active role in Healey events. He was never too far from his beloved Healeys or from his loving wife, children, grandchildren Andrew, Jennifer and Laura, and great-grandchildren Dylan, Benjamyn and William.

His children, David and Sheila, will continue his legacy at British Car Specialists in Stockton, California.

Norman added immeasurably to so many lives. He will be missed for his friendship, his readiness to help, and for his willingness to share his vast knowledge.

Memorial donations may be made in Norman's name to:

*Hospice of San Joaquin*  
3888 Pacific Ave.  
Stockton CA 95204



**A proud moment: working on the BRM of Juan Manuel Fangio (white cloth Helmet)**

# Why Sports Cars Could Cost More

Synopsis by Loren Parks

The following article is a synopsis of an article in *The Wall Street Journal* on April 14, 2010, by Joseph B. White.

If you are thinking about buying a high-end sports car, this might be the time to do it. Government regulations requiring higher minimum fuel mileage and carbon dioxide emissions could soon force development of expensive technologies and materials while reducing production, both of which will increase vehicle cost.

By the 2016 model year, the vehicles that auto makers sell in the US market will have to have a fleet average of 35.5 mpg—up from the 2009 model year's 26.4 mpg. That means the average car in the US will need to be more fuel-efficient than compact cars such as the VW Beetle or Honda Fit are today.

The new US fuel economy standards are actually two standards. One measure is greenhouse gas emissions per mile—the limit will be 250 grams of carbon dioxide per mile—and the other the miles per gallon of fuel. The two standards will be enforced in tandem by two different federal agencies, The Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Transportation.

Existing mass-market cars will have to evolve into more efficient versions of the vehicles they are today. But certain kinds of vehicles—particularly high-performance luxury cars—cannot meet the proposed standards without substantial transformation. Either the companies will have to change, merging or allying with mass-market partners to get credits for sales of cheap small cars, or the cars will have to change. Consider what Aston Martin is contemplating to reduce the average company fuel mileage—introduction of a rebranded Toyota named the Cygnet which gets about 40 mpg.

Different classes of vehicles will have harder or easier targets depending on their “footprint,” or the size of the vehicle.

The smaller the vehicle, the higher the mileage target. The fewer different kinds of vehicles a manufacturer sells, the harder it could be to hit the overall target—especially if the brand in question specializes in high-performance cars that are relatively small and slurp lots of gasoline.



Jaguar XK: 19 mpg



Ferrari 599 GTB: 12 mpg



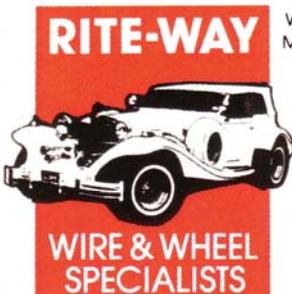
Porsche Carrera: 22 mpg



Aston Martin DB9: 15 mpg



Aston Martin Cygnet: 40mpg



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Continued on page 6

### **Why Sports Cars Could Cost More (continued)**

Consider the Jaguar XK. Based on its footprint, the XK is roughly in the same class as a Ford Fusion, which by 2016 is supposed to achieved 37.1 mpg and emit just 320 grams per mile of CO<sub>2</sub>. Today's Jaguar XK emits CO<sub>2</sub> at roughly double that rate. To make a Jaguar XK as fuel efficient as a Ford Fusion, the company would likely have to choose among the following: Make the car bigger to move it into a larger class with a more lenient mileage target; use a hybrid or a highly efficient diesel engine; make the car much lighter and smaller; or start selling a flock of small Jaguar models to offset the big gas guzzlers. Jaguar tried the last option a few years ago, offering a mid-size car adapted from former parent Ford Motor Co.'s European lineup. The car died, unlamented.

Jaguar is making huge investments in advanced power trains including hybrid and diesel, and plans to increase the use of aluminum to reduce weight. All of these moves will likely push up the cost of subsequent Jaguars. Whether the company can recover a price premium is a function of competition and gas prices, which Jaguar can't control.

For many companies, the response to regulatory pressure to cut greenhouse gas emissions in both the US and Europe will be to use hitherto unthinkable business alliances to spread the costs of new technology to cut consumption of fossil fuel. That's part of the reason why Daimler AG, the parent of Mercedes-Benz, earlier this month agreed to a share-swapping deal with Renault-Nissan. Mercedes gets small engines from Renault-Nissan for its new line of fuel-efficient Baby Benzes. The Franco-Japanese partners get Mercedes engines for Infiniti luxury cars. Both sides hope to reap savings.

Numerous other alliances and technologies are in the works, which are certain to have the effect of rendering most of today's vehicles obsolete and nearly worthless in the marketplace. But if you choose to buy a high-end performance car, it could retain value due to irreplaceability.



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## Editor's Column

Loren Parks  
Chico, CA



Since I became Editor two years ago I have endeavored to obtain newsletter contributions from our members. Many have responded by writing articles and submitting photos, which helps add interest and different points of view. Here is a list of those who have published articles since May, 2008.

Charmaine Allen	Kim Korbay
Marty Allen	David Nock
Gary Anderson	Jerri Nock
Jim Chapman	Bill Meade
Tico Cortes	Bill Putnam
David Cross	Don Reichel
Rob Fisher	Dan Sekella
Len Hartnett	John Soderling
Rich Kahn	John Trifari
	Bruce Wagner

Others have submitted miscellaneous photos of events to help me improve articles, but I haven't kept track of them. If you plan to attend an automotive event and are willing to prepare an article, please let me know. Your article will be published.

The front-page (masthead) photo is of Norman and Shona Nock at Healey Rendezvous 2009.



## Calendar of Events

Contact Jim Morton to list an event:  
[Themortons@starstream.net](mailto:Themortons@starstream.net). For a more complete list [www.GoldenGateHealeys.com](http://www.GoldenGateHealeys.com)

**Saturday, May 8.** ROTC car show, Manteca. Contact David Nock for info. . (209) 824-1562. [Healeydoc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Healeydoc@sbcglobal.net)

**Saturday, May 8.** Bruts & Beuts Vintage Autocross and Car Gathering at Great America. See [www.baautox.com/forum/index.php?t=msg&th=6480&start=0&rid=1289](http://www.baautox.com/forum/index.php?t=msg&th=6480&start=0&rid=1289)

**May 14-16.** CSRG Historic Car Races, Thunderhill Raceway. [www.csrgracing.org/](http://www.csrgracing.org/)

**May 19-23.** California Healey Week sponsored by the Austin Healey Association of Southern California. See page 8.

**Sunday, May 23.** United British Sports Car Club's All British Motorcar Show & Swap Meet in Woodland. See page 9.

**May 29-June 6.** British Car Week. *Drive that Healey!* [www.BritishCarWeek.org](http://www.BritishCarWeek.org).

**Saturday, June 5.** Hayward Field Meet and All British Car Show hosted by Mini Owners of America. [www.moasf.com](http://www.moasf.com).

**June 5-6.** Sonoma Historic Motorsports Festival at Infineon Raceway. <http://generalracing.com/>

**Saturday June 12.** **GGAHC** Board Meeting begins at 10:00am at the office of Lee Bardellini.

**Friday, June 25.** **GGAHC** pre-Rendezvous caravan begins (via Ashland). See page 8.

**Sunday, June 27.** Palo Alto Concours. [www.paconcours.com](http://www.paconcours.com).

**Sunday, June 27.** Lucas-Marelli British-Italian Car Tour. See page 9.

## Event Announcements

### Rendezvous 2010 caravan and pre-tour to Eugene, OR

Join us for a Bay Area caravan to the 2010 Rendezvous in Eugene, and a pre-tour to Ashland for the Shakespeare Festival. We will drive north on Hwy 101 to Fortuna, Eureka and Grants Pass, then south through Medford to Ashland where we will stay two nights. Following that we head north to Eugene.

**Meeting time and place:** June 25, 10:30am, Healdsburg on Hwy 101 in the town square.

You must make your own reservations for hotels and plays in Ashland. See the March issue of Healey Happenings for details, or go to the Club web site, or contact Nick and Sandy. **RSVP:** Nick & Sandy Klein (408) 264-2411, or email [kllein.ns@att.net](mailto:kllein.ns@att.net).



of Southern California

**California Healey Week 2010**, will be held between **May 19-23** in Temecula, CA (75 miles south of Los Angeles and 55 north of San Diego, off I-15), hub of the Southern California wine district. The event will be headquartered at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Rancho California Road, off I-15 and near the historic Old Town. Nearby are several wineries and restaurants and shopping opportunities.

Planned CHW events include wine tours, drives in the local mountains, Gymkhana, Tech Session, Car Show, Ladies crafts & luncheon, and Banquet dinner. Each day, there will be a complimentary breakfast and happy hour provided by the Embassy Suites. Registration and Regalia sales will occur each day. Go to [www.austin-healey.org](http://www.austin-healey.org) for latest updates.

### NAPA VALLEY WINERY TOUR

**10:00am Saturday, July 17**

Meet at Elkhorn Peak Cellars where GGAHC member Ken Nerlove will provide a tour and

*Planning a Trip to the Napa Valley?*

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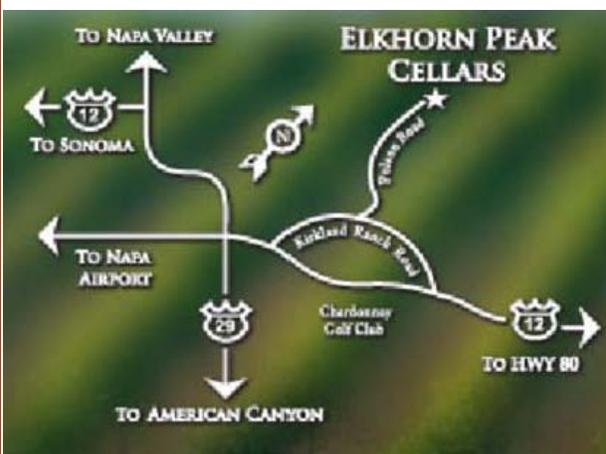
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wine tasting. The winery is located in Jamieson Canyon, South Napa. Detailed driving directions will be provided in subsequent newsletters. The tour will proceed to other wineries from there. **RSVP** George Henke: (707) 226-5445.



## Event Announcements (Continued)



### All British Motorcar Show And Swap Meet

Presented by the United British Sports Car Club  
May 23, 2010, Woodland California

### Share The Passion

The Yolo County Fairgrounds in Woodland, California is the place to be on **May 23rd** for *the Annual All British Motorcar Show and Swap Meet!* Polish your wing, dust off your bonnet, check out your boot, clean your windscreen, fill up with petrol and come eat a pastie because more than 300 daily drivers and trailer queens are expected to show on our huge grassy field. Not only do we offer the largest all British car show, but in our swap meet you'll find all sorts of new and used parts to help you get your British car fix. Don't be left out - come see and show your favorite roadster, estate, saloon or lorry!

*For more information or to download forms or register on-line, go to:*

[WWW.UBSCC.ORG](http://WWW.UBSCC.ORG)

or call: (916) 761-2626 or (925) 935-5477

### Lucas-Marelli Tour

Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>

After many years of owning both British and Italian cars, I decided to do some research into the background of both of the companies who supplied the electrical components for our cars. Many British car owners know Lucas as the "Prince of Darkness" due to their legendary electrical parts. But few Alfa owners know that Lucas parts made their way into a number of Italian cars one of them being the Alfa Romeos of the 1950s.

Now as for the wonderful Marelli ignition systems that appeared also in the 1950s and continued on into the 1980s, I personally believe after close inspection that some of the parts were surreptitiously copied by Marelli from Lucas. Furthermore, for us poor souls who are unaware of these facts, we do not know who to blame when we do have electrical problems with our cars.

So, in honor of these wonderful men who designed these electrical systems, we are once again hosting the **Lucas-Marelli Tour**. This year the Santa Cruz British Motorcar Club will be joining us again.

This unforgettable event will take place on June 27<sup>th</sup>. We meet in Los Gatos behind the "Los Osos Cafe" also known as the Bears Coffee Roasting (located at 19 N. Santa Cruz) at 9:30 am. We will leave at 10:00 am sharp for our tour. Remember to fill your tank with gas as you enter town.

During our drive we will stop for lunch, and the cost will be approximately \$10.00-15.00 per person.

For information on the event, contact Don Reichel at (408) 354-2222 or e-mail at [acas-tlekeep@aol.com](mailto:acas-tlekeep@aol.com).

# Healey Rendezvous 2010

## Eugene, Oregon, June 28—July 2



All information, including the **registration form**, can be viewed and downloaded from the Austin Healey Club of Oregon's web site: <http://healey-oregon.org/rendezvous-2010>

The hotel is the Valley River Inn [www.valleyriverinn.com](http://www.valleyriverinn.com). When making reservations, be sure to ask for the \$95/night Healey Rendezvous rate, available only with an event registration number. Call the hotel toll-free at (800) 543-8266. **Early registration is encouraged.**

### **Event Schedule**

#### **Monday, June 28**

Welcome. Registration packets in hotel lobby 1-5:30pm  
Car Wash available East side of North Bldg.  
Regalia open 4-5:30pm Rogue Room Main Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Healey Arts and Crafts displayed 4-5:30pm Umpqua Room Main Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Welcome Reception at pool area 5:30-8pm  
AHCUSA 40th year Anniversary Celebration pool area 5:30-8pm  
Introduction of guest Hank Leach

#### **Tuesday, June 29**

Popular Car Show and Concours Judging—Coburg Park 10am-2pm  
Regalia and Registration in Coburg Park 10am -12  
Lunch in Coburg Park 12 noon  
Tech Session #1, 3-4:30pm Columbia Ballroom North Bldg. at VRI  
Social hour Riverside Bar 5-6pm  
Rendezvous Council meeting 6-7pm  
Dinner on your own

#### **Wednesday, June 30**

Tech session #2 9-10:30am Columbia Ballroom North Bldg. at VRI  
Tech session #3 11-12:30pm Columbia Ballroom North Bldg. at VRI  
Regalia open 9am-12:30 Rogue Room Main Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Healey Arts and Crafts displayed 9am-12:30 Umpqua Room Main Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Ladies Brunch 11-12:30  
Rally 1-5pm  
Ladies Tech Session 2-3:30pm Columbia Ballroom North Bldg. at VRI  
Tour #1, 2-4pm  
Dinner on your own  
Social hour 6:30-7:30 Willamette Ballroom Main Bldg. At VRI  
Rendezvous auction 7:30-10pm

#### **Thursday, July 1**

Tech session #4 9-10:30am Columbia Ballroom North Bldg. at VRI  
Regalia open 9-10:30am Rogue Room Main Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Healey Arts and Crafts Awards displayed 9-10:30am Umpqua Room Main Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Best of Show ballots due 12 noon (location)  
Tour #2, 2-5pm  
Social hour riverside bar 5-6pm Sweetwater's  
Awards Dinner 6-10pm Willamette Ballroom Main Bldg. VRI

#### **Friday, July 2**

Farewells



## Healey Dreams

**Auction:** BARRETT-JACKSON PALM BEACH 2010  
**Sale Price:** \$110,000.00 (including 10% commission)  
**Year:** 1967  
**Make:** AUSTIN-HEALEY  
**Model:** 3000 MARK III BJ8  
**Style:** CONVERTIBLE  
**Exterior Color:** METALLIC GOLDEN BEIGE  
**Interior Color:** BLACK  
**Cylinders:** 6  
**Engine Size:** 3000CC  
**Transmission:** 4-SPEED MANUAL

**Summary:** Exceptional Kurt Tanner Restorations car just completed. One of 553 original factory Metallic Golden Beige cars produced. Chrome wires and overdrive.

**Details:** Out of all the Austin-Healey models produced, the 3000 MKIII BJ-8 Sports convertible is one of the most valuable of the production cars. This beautiful grand tourer offers all the amenities which make this model the fastest, safest, most comfortable and user-friendly of the whole line. Final improvements and upgrades include the 150hp engine, center shift transmission, power brakes, trailing arm softer rear suspension, walnut fascia dashboard, fold down luggage shelf, armrests, armbars, center console and quieter exhaust system. This exceptional example offered for sale here has just completed a thorough restoration by premier marque specialist Kurt Tanner Restorations. Purchased last year from only its third owner, this California delivered Black Plate BJ-8 is a rare offering in that it is one of 553 factory produced Metallic Golden Beige cars as proven by its BMIHT Certificate. Details of the restoration include show quality body and paint work in base coat/clear coat, new chrome, rubber, glass, leather trim, top, top boot, chrome wire wheels and radial tires, cadmium plated hardware, new wiring harness and electrics, fuel system, sports exhaust system, detailed driveline and undercarriage, etc. All work and detailing has been carried out to Austin-Healey Club Concours Gold standards and the finest materials have been used. With the high cost of restoring cars in today's market, this vehicle represents excellent value and great investment potential. Restored by a marque specialist back to its factory delivered color scheme, this Golden Beige late BJ-8 is a rare and exciting offering not to be missed.



## Newsletter & Web Site Management

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Contact Loren Parks for advertising rates.

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The Golden Gate Austin Healey Club is affiliated nationally with the



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Golden Gate Healey Happenings

## Healeymarket

GGAHC members may submit Healey-related items either wanted or for sale without paying a fee.



1962 Austin Healey Sprite: \$7,800

Fiberglass front end conversion

Removable hardtop; 1275cc engine

Electronic ignition, speedo, & fan

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## PRIZE-WINNING AUSTIN-HEALEY—ONLY \$2985



Austin Healey "100" and number one beauty, the Republic F4U Corsair

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At Bonneville Flats, Utah, a stock AUSTIN-HEALEY "100" broke all American stock car records in Class D at distances from 5 to 3,000 miles! Its speed tests over the flying mile, this new sports car went 142.616 miles per hour! (All records certified by American Automobile Association.)

The new AUSTIN-HEALEY 100 is the world's fastest production car under 3,000 cc., yet it costs only \$2985\*. The styling is superb, as you can see,

and the car gives you up to 25 miles per gallon.

In addition, the price includes all Federal taxes and about every custom extra you can think of. Heater. Defroster. Twin carburetors. Tachometer. Three forward speech plus overdrive. Adjustable wind-screens. Disappearing all-weather top. Custom-fitted leather upholstery. Tonneau cover. Roomy luggage compartment. And wire-spoke

wheels which cost about \$200 extra on other sports cars.

Why not get an AUSTIN-HEALEY demonstration?

For full information on the AUSTIN-HEALEY and the complete AUSTIN line, as well as the name of your nearest AUSTIN-HEALEY dealer, drop a card to Austin Motor Company Ltd., 27-29 West 37th Street, New York, N. Y. or 100 Gough Street, San Francisco, California.

\*As a special part of 1955

**AUSTIN OF ENGLAND**

27-29 WEST 37TH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. • 480 GOUGH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

May 2010

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