



Austin Healeys gathered for the Marin headlands tour

Golden Gate Austin Healey Club

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Marin Headlands Tour

by Loren Parks

Wine & Cheese Tour

September 28

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Mark Twain is credited with saying “the coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco.” Although there is no evidence that he ever said it, the veracity of the statement was confirmed on Sunday, August 4 when the Golden Gate Austin Healey Club held a Marin Headlands tour organized by Dennis and Ruth Gilroy. Sunshine was sparse as fog hugged the hills near the ocean and, on the hill where Battery Townsley is located, it was so cold and windy that coats were needed by most of us. Nevertheless, 19 Austin Healeys occupied by 31 people joined the tour.

The group gathered in Mill Valley, received directions from Dennis, and departed at 10:30am on a beautiful, curvy drive over the mountain and down to Stinson Beach. The scenery alternated between scrub brush and redwoods. We parked briefly at Stinson Beach Park to regroup, then drove back over the mountain via a different route.



Girl talk

Continued on page 2



Fall Colors Tour

October 26-27

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dreamstime.com



Boy talk



Dennis (white hat) explains the route

Marin Headlands Tour (continued)

Our destination was the Spinnaker Restaurant in Sausalito. Crowds were heavy along the main drag in Sausalito, and we got plenty of attention.

Following lunch we drove to Fort Cronkhite which is just outside the Golden Gate Bridge. A section of the road included a one-way 18% downhill grade, which is steep enough to get your attention. Parking was scarce due to the Sunday crowd at the beach so we parked on the dirt edge of the parking lot. Most of us hiked 0.7 miles up a paved road (closed to vehicle traffic) to Battery Townsley where a Park ranger awaited us. His knowledge of Battery Townsley was encyclopedic and his presentation was superb. For example, he described how the busiest time in the battery's history was immediately after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1942. Approximately 100 men camped inside the underground, fortified concrete corridors of the battery until the locations of the Japanese could be determined and other defenses mobilized. It took a crew of 37 to operate the gun, and crews had to be ready continuously.

During WW2 Batteries Townsley and Davis guarded the Golden Gate. These massive 16-inch guns were 68 feet long and could fire a 2,100 lb projectile almost 25 miles. Fired only in target practice, the original guns were scrapped in 1948 and defenses were switched to Nike missiles. The gun barrel on the premises at present was originally mounted on the battleship USS Missouri in 1944. It is the only survivor of the nine 16-inch guns on the Missouri; the rest were scrapped. It was brought here because it is essentially the same gun that was at Battery Townsley. The gun barrel is currently displayed outside the Battery, and plans call for the entire gun assembly to be mounted to help tell the stories of Fort Cronkhite and the men and women who served in San Francisco's defenses.

Following the tour of Battery Townsley the group dispersed, but some went to the famous Farley Bar at Point Cavallo. What happened at the Farley Bar stays at the Farley Bar.

Continued on page 3



Downhill to Stinson Beach



Departing Stinson Beach Park



**▲ Lunch at the Spinnaker ▼
Our Christmas luncheon and annual meeting will be held here on December 7**



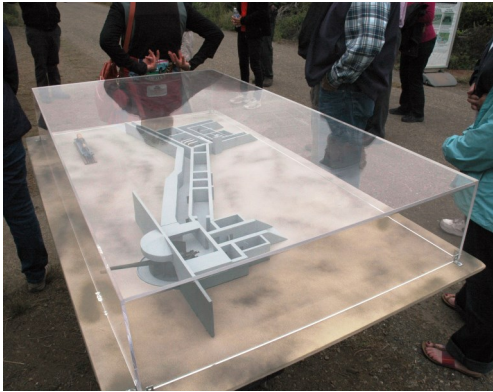
**Marin Headlands Tour
(continued)**

Thanks to Dennis and Ruth Gilroy for organizing this fine tour.



Participants

- Marty Allen & Cathy Smith
- Gary & Harriet Anderson
- Lee Bartellini
- Freddie Cecchini (visitor)
- Steve & Patty Darfler
- Phil & Suzanne Foster
- Dennis & Ruth Gilroy
- Len Hartnett
- Roger & Donna Hawk
- Rich & Lynn Kahn
- Steve Korbay
- Nick & Sandy Klein
- Jim & Ida Morton
- David & Jerri Nock
- Tim Murphy & Vivian Poole
- Loren & Diana Parks
- Mary Louise & Robert Sardeman
- Brian & Kathleen Schumacher
- Mike Sonneman



Model of Battery Townsley



The gun barrel weighs 126 tons



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▲ Parking at Fort Cronkhite

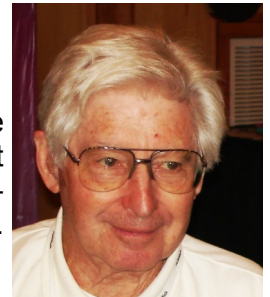
▼ A Park ranger describes the site



The Annual Austin Healey Ice Cream Social

by Len Hartnett

The Austin Healey Club of America encourages an ice cream social to be held by all of the affiliate clubs on the fourth Sunday of August. Our Club has conformed to the request since inception of the event, but nobody is counting the years. This year's event at Foster's Freeze in Vacaville drew 11 participants in six Austin Healeys and a few other cars. The weather was good, the ice cream was excellent, and we had a good social event.



Bill Putnam



Ted Shelton & Phil Foster



Len Hartnett's Healey & plastic ice cream



Roger & Donna Hawk



A customer gets the facial sundae

Participants		Spectators
Mike & Susan Armstead	1965 BJ8 MK3	
Phil Foster	(accompanied Shelton)	
Donna & Roger Hawk	1956 100M	
Len Hartnett	BJ8	
George Henke	BJ9	
Ted & Lynn Noble	BJ9	
Bill Putnam	1955 100M	
Ted Shelton	1956 BN2	



Mike Armstead



TRAVEL TRAILER RENAISSANCE

by Loren Parks

We have all seen old travel trailers tucked away behind houses, in fields, and in other obscure places—usually in a sad state of repair. But as singer-songwriter Bob Dylan sang in 1964, “*times they are a-changin.*” The same inspiration that drives Americans to collect and restore old cars has spilled over to travel trailers.

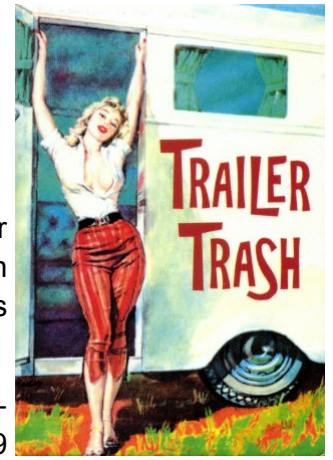
There are various organizations that cater to owners of vintage travel trailers, the oldest of which is Tin Can Tourists founded in Tampa, Florida, in 1919 (www.tincantourists.com). Of course the trailers were not vintage back then—they were new. Another organization is Vintage Camper Trailers (www.vintagecampertrailers.com), which lists numerous meets in California.

Sometimes there is judging much like a car show. The meet I visited in June included about 80 trailers and there was no competitive judging.

The meet was held at the Woodson Bridge RV Park about 20 miles north of Chico. The Park is a bucolic setting on the bank of the Sacramento River. In preparation for the show, most of the trailer owners removed their cars from the trailer area so that visitors could park conveniently. I parked my Healey in front of a trailer of about the same vintage and roamed the Park for over an hour, talking to owners and examining trailers inside and out. The selection of trailers and approaches to restoration were eclectic to say

the least. Some were restored to original specs including real ice boxes (not refrigerators), and furnishings from the era as detailed as dishes and cutlery. Conversely, some had modern appliances installed such as microwave ovens and air conditioning. In all instances, however, external appearances were essentially original. The most dedicated enthusiasts have vintage vehicles to pull their vintage trailers.

Continued on page 6



Travel Trailer Renaissance (continued)

Old travel trailers, like old cars, will absorb all the money you want to spend on them. Initial price depends primarily on condition and scarcity, with Airstreams being the most prized and the most expensive. I met several people who have multiple trailers and the land on which to store them; one guy told me that he had a dozen old trailers on his ranchette.

As the current owner of a fifth-wheel and prior owner of two travel trailers, I have some opinions about the hobby. It is not for me; most of the old trailers are small and cramped with few amenities. In particular, beds are small, many have no shower, and storage space is scant. My wife and I want comfort and modern conveniences when we go trailering.



If you collect trailers for a hobby you have a storage problem worse than storing multiple cars because of the sizes of trailers, plus there are rules in some places prohibiting storage of RVs on residential lots or even on the street. Fortunately the hobbyists deal with these issues and help us preserve our history just like we do with cars.



monterey Journal

by Loren Parks

The annual automobile orgy at Monterey continued unabated this year with so many overlapping events that one must choose among them. The auctions were particularly prevalent with at least five companies in the action—Mecum, Russo & Steele, RM, Gooding, and Bonham's. Taking into account both the auctions and vendors at outdoor events, this was a good week to be in the tent business. It was also a busy week for the car hauling business; hundreds of car transporters are parked all around the area during the week because what is hauled in must be hauled out. I wonder how many thousands of people come here to work—not to spectate. I kept my usual schedule with my friend Kevin, which included the Tour d'Elegance in Carmel on Wednesday (cars that will be shown at the Pebble Beach Concours), Concorso Italiano on Friday, historic races at Laguna Seca on Saturday, and the Pebble Beach Concours on Sunday.



On with the show. The Tour d'Elegance at Carmel was a people crush as usual. The



greatest challenge was parking, but we managed to park within a 15-minute walk of Ocean Avenue. As always, it was a delight to view and listen to classic cars actually being driven. Photography is difficult once the cars park close to each other on Ocean Avenue because of all the people trying to move among them. Incidentally, this year the number of dogs accompanying spectators was impressive. These weren't just ordinary dogs; if they were cars they would be Ferraris and Duesenbergs.



Continued on page 8

♪ You do the Hokey Pokey and you turn yourself around. That's what it's all about. ♪

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It's a Duesy!

Monterey Journal (continued)

Concorso Italiano featured Lamborghini this year in celebration of the company's 50th anniversary. There were 130 Lamborghinis on the field, and events were held all week in celebration. The entire management team was there to receive an achievement award from the Concorso Italiano organization.

Another featured marque was the Apollo, of which only 88 were assembled in the USA between 1962 and 1964. This rare marque combined American engines with Italian bodies. There were numerous twists and turns in the short Apollo saga, which can be viewed at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_\(1962_automobile\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo_(1962_automobile)). Twenty-two Apollos were at Concorso, including one owned by GGAHC member Denny Paul of Carmel. Other GGAHC members present included Bruce Wagner—a perennial entrant with his Maserati Merak—and Nancy McCroskey who parked her Sprite in the Corral for non-Italian cars.

I have always enjoyed the entertainment and fashion show at Concorso, but unfortunately the former has been discontinued. The fashion show, however, continues. This year some children's fashions were included in the mix, and they provided relief from the very ordinary collections shown for adults. Keith Martin from Sports Car Market served as emcee again for the featured car show, interviewing drivers with innocuous questions like when and why they bought their cars, what restoration they have done, and how many Italians can fit in a Fiat 500.



Continued on page 9

▲ What is that tattoo on her back? Could it be the Lamborghini logo?

▼ Indeed it is. She is the Lambo Princess!



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Monterey Journal (continued)



Excuse me while I have a meltdown



Fashionistas are getting younger



GGAHC member Bruce Wagner & Renee Champagne with Maserati Merak



GGAHC member Denny Paul and son Bruce with Apollo GT

The historic races at Laguna Seca were well attended; we recognized many of the cars as having been here every year since the Spanish invaded California. The only surprise was the weather, which was unusually sunny in the morning but turned to clouds and a cold front mid-day. The featured marque was Corvette which, like Lamborghini, is celebrating its 50th anniversary. There were hundreds of them on-site. The new Corvette (C7) was on display and it is gorgeous. I need one.

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Kevin Adair (white Healey) approaches the corkscrew.



GGAHC members Dennis & Sue Adair with race cars



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Lance Reventlow's first Scarab of eight built (circa 1958). He died in a plane crash in 1972.

Monterey Journal (continued)

The Pebble Beach Concours is always a superb experience; getting there is not. The way the shuttle system is supposed to work is that people park their cars on the sides of oceanfront road, side roads, and any other space in the maze of residential roads designated for event parking. Buses pick up people at designated spots and take them to and from the Polo Grounds, which is a short walk to The Lodge at Pebble Beach. It sounds good in theory, but every year it borders on chaos. Signage is wrong, parking guides make mistakes, buses bypass people, and so forth. Once you get there it's a great show.

The automotive honorees this year included Aston Martin, Lamborghini, and the Porsche 911. Also being honored was one of the prettiest BMW models in history, the 507 roadster. Coachbuilders also got plenty of attention, with Lincoln and Vanvooren each getting its own category, in addition to the Simplex marque. Even the two-wheelers got some time in the spotlight, with motorcycles from France getting their own category for this year's show. I'll let the photos speak for themselves.

Continued on page 11



**Best of show: 1934 Packard 1108 Twelve
Dietrich Victoria Convertible**



Cars assemble for a brief showing on the winners' deck



1936 Jaguar SS100 Roadster



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Pebble Beach Hats



Calendar of Events

Contact Jim Morton to list an event:
Themortons@starstream.net. For a more complete list www.GoldenGateHealeys.com

September 14-15. British Fall Classic, Morgan Hill. See page 13.

September 14-15. 24 Hours of Lemons at Thunderhill Raceway. www.24hoursoflemons.com

September 21-22. Danville Concours d'Elegance. See page 13.

September 28. **GGAHC** 3rd Annual Wine & Cheese Tour. See page 12.

September 28. Ironstone Concours, Murphys, CA www.ironstonefoundation.org.

October 4-6. Classic Sports Racing Group's 10th annual Charity Challenge at Sonoma Raceway. See web site: www.csrgracing.org.

October 13. Roaring Camp Railroads Tour with the Santa Cruz SCC. The signup deadline was August 1.

October 26-27. **GGAHC** Fall Colors Tour in the Nevada City area. See page 12.

December 7. **GGAHC** Christmas party and annual meeting at The Spinnaker Restaurant in Sausalito. See page 12.

December 7-8. 24 Hours of Lemons at Sonoma Raceway. www.24hoursoflemons.com

Fall Colors Tour

October 26-27

Meet at the Holiday Inn Express in Auburn just behind In-n-Out Burger, located at 120 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn, CA 95603 (the intersection of I-80 and Hwy 49—go north on 49). Meet at 9:00am. We will not go directly to Nevada City, so you must start the tour in Auburn. Those who wish to spend the preceding night at the Holiday Inn Express (Friday night, October 25) must make their own reservations there by calling (530) 887-8787. There is no group rate.

A block of rooms is reserved for Saturday night October 26 at the Northern Queen Inn (400 Railroad Ave., Nevada City, CA 95959; telephone 530-265-5824) for \$80.00 per room plus tax. You must mention GGAHC and **reserve by September 26**. There is no cancellation refund at this rate; if you want a 48-hour prior-to-arrival cancellation option you must pay the rack rate.

We will visit the Empire Mine State Historic Park, the Northern Queen Mining Museum, and one winery. A catered dinner will be served at the Buckley home. The price of this event is \$30/person payable in cash. Reserve your space on the tour by contacting Rich Buckley or Bob Altieri:

Rich Buckley: (530) 277-3966;
writerbuckley1@yahoo.com

Bob Altieri: (530) 265-9366;
bob@leapfrogsoftware.com



The Empire Mine State Historic Park



Third Annual Wine & Cheese Tour

Saturday, September 28

Mark your calendars for the **Third Annual Marin/Sonoma Wine & Cheese Tour**. We will meet at Starbucks, 306 Strawberry Village, Mill Valley, CA 94941. This shopping plaza is at the Tiburon/Mill Valley exit off of Hwy 101. It faces the 101 Freeway. The New York Bagels store is next to Starbucks. Arrive by 10:00am for a 10:30am departure.

We will finish up at the Ram's Gate Winery near Sears Point. Preceding winery visits and the lunch location are yet to be finalized.

Please notify Marty Allen if you plan to attend:
(510) 845-7585; martyallen@aol.com



Christmas Luncheon & Annual Meeting in Sausalito
December 7 12pm-3pm



The Spinnaker Restaurant

The British Fall Classic

September 14-15 Morgan Hill



This is the first annual revival of the California Autumn Classic and it will cover all classic British marques. It is open to Saloons, vintage British racing cars as well as two-seater sports cars. The idea is for the show to expose the public to the magic of the British classic automobiles...and to have a great time too!

Please plan on joining us as we kick off a major British event. The schedule will include a Saturday Tour and a reception (as in the past) at *On the Road Again Classic Restorations* in Morgan Hill. It will also include the show on Sunday on Monterey Avenue in downtown Morgan Hill.

Schedule

Saturday

12 - 3:30 pm Afternoon tour meeting at Butterfield Blvd CalTrain Station parking lot.

4:00 pm Wine reception at On the Road Again Classics, 16840 Joleen Way Unit G4, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Sunday

8 am -10 am Cars arrive on East 2nd Street in downtown Morgan Hill for staging

10 am-3:30 pm Public viewing of the cars

Lunch On your own at several of the local restaurants

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Awards/Closing

The price of entry is \$45. To obtain the entry form see

<http://thebritishfallclassic.com/>



© Brian Kimball/Kimball Stock



Danville
Concours d'Elegance

Supporting Parkinson's Research
and Patient Care

September 21st & 22nd, 2013

Mark your calendars now to join fellow Healey owners for the Tour d' Elegance and/or the Concours d'Elegance. This gathering of *Cool Cars For A Cause* is designed to raise funds for Parkinson's research and patient care. The cars do not have to be concours level classics or "trailer queens!"

The **Tour d'Elegance** will be held on Saturday with a morning check-in, refreshments and departure from the Lafayette Park Hotel. This year's Tour route has been specifically designed for your driving pleasure, and includes a catered lunch stop.

The **Concours d' Elegance** will take place on Sunday, when the streets of historic downtown Danville will overflow with the sights, sounds and smells of classic, sports performance and exotic automobiles, as well as fine wooden yachts and cruisers, motorcycles and vintage trailers. This will be Old Town Danville at its finest, for a full day of classic vehicle displays, fine food, wine tasting including some of the finest Napa wines, a silent auction, raffles, kids' remote race car corral and French-style Concours judging in a relaxed environment. It's time to register now

www.danville-delegance.org/register.aspx

(register for the Saturday Tour d' Elegance and/or the Sunday Concours d' Elegance) to be part of a great weekend of GAHC gear-head camaraderie and to help support Parkinson's research.

Questions? Please contact John Soderling

BigHealey@astound.net , or (925) 934-0925

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The Golden Gate Austin Healey Club is affiliated nationally with the



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Healeymarket

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



No submittals

Road Signs We Dream About

