



GOLDEN GATE HEALEY HAPPENINGS

BETSY & BOB DEVLIN'S BN2

Golden Gate Austin Healey Club

Volume 16, No. 2

March 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

GGAHC Events for 2014.....	1
The Eliminator.....	2
Miscellaneous Ramblings...	3
The Photographic Art of Fabian Oefner.....	5
Premium Gas is Like Male Enhancement Drugs.....	6
Calendar.....	7
Event Announcements.....	7
Healeymarket.....	11

GGAHC Events for 2014

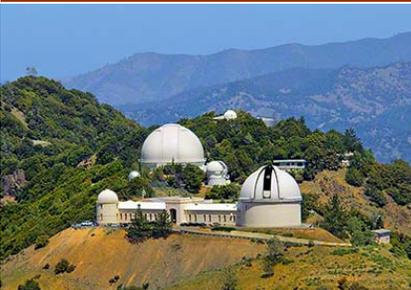
The GGAHC Board of Directors held a brief meeting on January 11, followed by an event planning meeting for 2014 for anyone who wanted to attend. As customary, we sought to avoid scheduling Club events on dates that conflict with other automotive events popular among our members. Although details are unspecified for some events, here is a summary of the plan.

- **March 15.** Tech Session at British Car Specialists in Stockton.
- **April 5.** Brunch at Garré Vineyard and tour of the Mt. Hamilton observatory. David Nock.
- **May 3.** Lodi winery tour. David Nock
- **June 7.** Pescadero tour with the Santa Cruz Sports Car Club. Nancy McCroskey.
- **July 26.** Tour from the Santa Cruz Mountains to the sea at Moss Landing and back. Winery tour and lunch. David Cross and Nick Klein.
- **August 24.** National Austin Healey Ice Cream Social at Foster's Freeze in Vacaville. Len Hartnett.
- **September 6.** Tour of the Jelly Belly Factory in Fairfield, then drive to the fascinating Reiffs Gas Station Museum in Woodland. Have lunch in a 50's style diner and enjoy the collection of automotive memorabilia and retro 1950s nostalgia. Make a final stop at Turkovich Family Wines for wine tasting. Rich and Lynn Kahn.
- **October 4.** Fourth Annual Wine & Cheese Tour in Marin/Napa/Sonoma Counties. Marty Allen.
- **October 25.** Fall Colors Tour in the Nevada City area. Bob Altieri and Rich Buckley.
- **December 13 (tentative).** GGAHC Christmas party and annual meeting.

Details about these events will appear in the newsletter as they approach.



▲ Tech Session at British Car Specialists, March 15

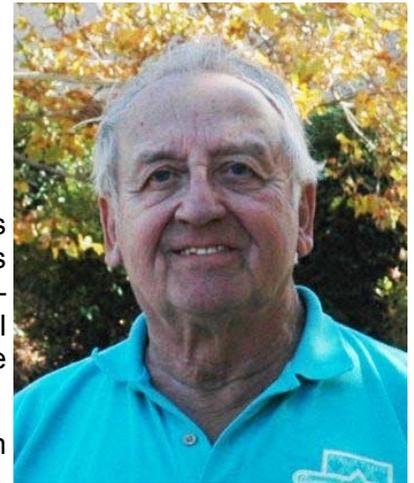


▲ Mt. Hamilton Tour
April 5



The Eliminator

Glenn Stephenson



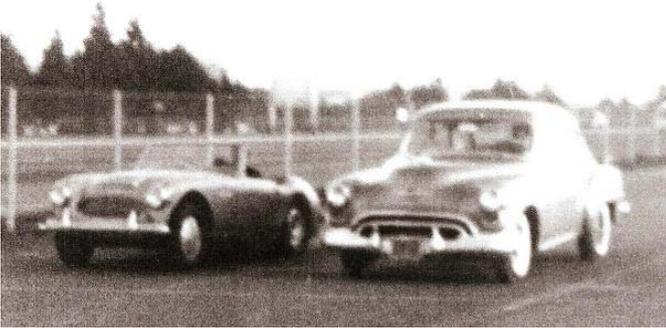
It all started in June of 1959. As a 19 year-old I had a good, dependable job as a linotype operator in Berkeley and decided that I could afford a new car; I was specifically looking for a “sports car.” I drove a number of different sport cars—MG, Triumph, Corvette and Jaguar, but they did not peak my interest. At El Cerrito BMC I test-drove a Healey—not the fastest car but the exhaust tone and the way the car felt overall led me inside to talk to the salesman.

While the salesman was “working up the numbers” I spied what was known in printing parlance as a “mat” from which a lead mold can be made for printing.

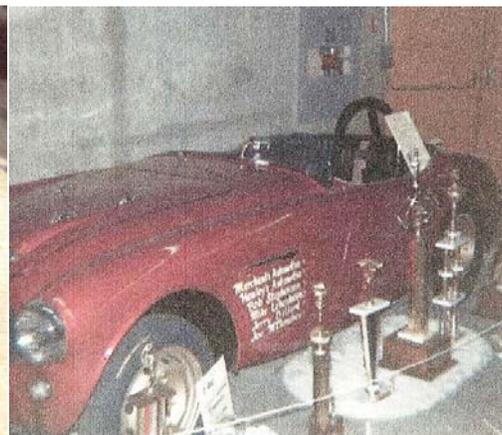
It announced the July, 1959 introduction of The *New 1960 Austin Healey 3000, with front disc brakes and MORE horsepower.* I had the salesman cancel the 100-6 car order in favor of the 3000. I picked up the car on July 5, 1959; HBT7-L/940 was mine. It was Healey Blue with blue trim and hood. Since my intention was to race the car (drag racing, that is), I ordered it without wire wheels or overdrive.



The notoriously weak low gear teeth gave me fits for months. The slightest clash meant a new layshaft. The first three were covered by warranty; the fourth and last one is still in the transmission in perfect condition. The car was a daily driver from 1959 until late 1961. Since the car was a proven winner (and I was having too much fun), I decided to take the car off the streets and focus all efforts on racing. The car was rebuilt to legal stock specifications with a .060” overbore, all reciprocating parts balanced, and 2” HD8 carbs. An unusual locking differential was located in the late 1960’s and installed, as well as an extremely low set of gears found in England.



Through the years the car acquired over a hundred first place trophies, and a second place in class at the prestigious Oakland Roadster Show. Due to rule changes the car was retired by 1973. By this time it had acquired 6 world records, 24 state records in California, Nevada, Washington and Oregon, and the title of being the world’s fastest-accelerating stock Austin Healey at 14.8 seconds



and over 94 mph in the quarter-mile. Time has not been kind as the car now requires a lot of TLC to bring it back to its original glory. That would be a rewarding challenge for a new owner.



VEHICLES I HAVE MET

Loren Parks

Over many years of travel I have encountered numerous vehicles of interest. Here is a sample of my vehicle photos.



Tell me, Ms. Cruiser, what does PT mean?



◀ A real steam roller. Poona, India, 1966.

Lectra Haul dump truck at the world's largest open-pit copper mine, Chuquicamata, in northern Chile (1974). Diana (wife) and our kids are next to it, along with our Ford Falcon.



◀ 4WD open-air "mudders" haul tourists from the top of Iguazu Falls to the river below (on the Brazil side) to board tour boats. (1994)

Model A Ford truck in southern Chile, 1973. Model A's were still working vehicles at the time.



◀ Armored Chevrolet Suburban in Erbil, Iraq, where I worked in 2005. A bullet-proof box is inserted through the back. Kurdish guards accompanied me in an armored vehicle every time I left the project compound; I was not allowed to walk on the street.

City bus in Asunción, Paraguay, 2001. Sexy lingerie advertisements were blamed for numerous collisions because they distracted drivers.



◀ Purple Rolls Royce with white leather interior in front of the Marriott Hotel in Cairo, Egypt. The owner was a Kuwaiti sheik. (1997).

Old British fire engine, Cairo, Egypt. (1997)



Continued on next page

Vehicles I have met (continued)



The AWD Terra Bus ▶ is made for driving on the Columbia Ice Field in the Canadian Rockies. It holds up to 56 people and has a top speed of 11 mph on the glacier. (1980's)



◀ Old Soviet military vehicle in rural Armenia, 2005.

Mitsubishi Delica ▶ 4WD at Lake Bunyoni in southwest Uganda (2002). We hired this vehicle & driver for a 9-day safari.



◀ We toured southern Venezuela in this Toyota Land Cruiser in 1993. This is in Santa Elena on the border with Brazil.



Polish Fiat 126p is ▶ the iconic car of the Solidarity era. It was labeled the "Maluch," which means "the toddler." Krakow, Poland, 1994.



◀ Two-wheel tractor pulling a trailer. It hooks up to many kinds of implements and trailers. China, 1991.



Assortment of Soviet era utility vans at the central market in Rzeszow ("Zeshoof") Poland, 1994.



◀ Land Rover Game Viewer, Malawi. This 4WD beast with a seat rack hanging out the back can haul up to 10 passengers. (2010)



Collection of Ford ▶ Company cars at Los Aleros, Venezuela. Notice the Edsel station wagon. (1993)



The Photographic Art of Fabian Oefner

At one moment in time, we've all experienced the feeling that we thought the car was going to explode. Well today we get to look at some cars that actually do explode, at least under the guidance of Swiss artist [Fabian Oefner](#). Mr. Oefner has created two new series of artistic expression for our viewing enjoyment, one called 'Disintegrating', while the other is known as 'Hatch.' The first of the two, **Disintegrating**, contains some extraordinary shots of amazing cars that have seemingly exploded and caught on camera in mid action. The photos were created by taking thousands of separate photos of individual pieces hanging in mid-air and compiling them into the collages shown below.



IT'S NO FUN IF IT DOESN'T RUN
 FREE Parts & Accessories Catalogs for:
100-4, 100-6, 3000, Sprite
VictoriaBritish.com | "KEEP 'EM ON THE ROAD"™ | 1-800-255-0088

BRITISH MOTOR HERITAGE APPROVED | SUNBEAM | FILMAPP

©2013 Long Motor Corp.

CLASSIC AUTO RESTORATION & REPAIR
BRITISH PARTS DISTRIBUTOR
WWW.UNIONJACK.COM
 13555 Depot St. PO Box 551 San Martin, CA 95046
408 686-1101 Fax 683-2447

Swap Meet / Boneyard Sale

Second Saturday of the month from 10am-2pm, March 8, 2014. New and used parts. **Union Jack** 13555 Depot St. San Martin, CA 95046. Call Marcello or John @ (408) 686-1101 with questions.

Planning a Trip to the Napa Valley?

VISIT

ELKHORN PEAK CELLARS

FOR A TOUR & TASTING...

with GGAHC Member
Ken Nerlove,
 Owner & Master Grower

WWW.ELKHORNPEAK.COM
 APPOINTMENTS ONLY
 CALL TOLL FREE
888-829-5082

ELKHORN PEAK

It's True: Premium Gasoline is a Lot Like Male Enhancement Drugs

by Len Penzo from Lenpenzo.com



The things I do for this blog in the name of personal finance.

One day last month I got into a lunchtime conversation at work with a contractor who tried to convince me he had good reasons for putting premium gasoline in his Toyota Corolla, the biggest of which was that he got better gas mileage. I found that a bit hard to believe—but more on that in a second.

For the record, Consumer Reports notes that using premium gas in an engine that is designed to run on regular does NOT improve performance.

Unlike my contractor friend, I think most people understand that premium gasoline is generally meant for use by high performance cars and the occasional Sherman tank. Still, in 2007 the market share of premium gas was almost 10 percent.

I don't know about you but, regardless of how you calculate fuel economy, one out of every ten cars I see on the road aren't high performance vehicles—or Sherman tanks for that matter—so anecdotal evidence suggests a lot of people still believe in the magical powers of premium gasoline.

In fact, the magical powers that allow premium gasoline to turn a Toyota Corolla into a 540-hp Shelby GT500 is eerily similar to the claims of those male enhancement drugs that promise to turn us average Joes into superhuman love machines that would make even the late great Barry White envious. I mean, just look at the evidence:

Premium Gasoline	Male Enhancement Drugs
Better gas mileage	Improved energy
Better performance	More stamina
A better engine via improved durability	A better, um, "engine" via improved firmness, fullness

But I digress. Let me go back to the contractor who swears he gets better gas mileage.

In addition to prolonging the life of his engine, this guy swears premium gas gives him an extra three miles per gallon too. Assuming he gets 40 miles per gallon, that would result in an improvement of only 7.5 percent, which is very close to the mark-up for premium gas anyway. Fine.

So just for grins I recently completed my own month-long experiment using only premium gasoline in my 1997 Honda Civic. I already had plenty of gas mileage data using regular gas from a previous analysis I did of my new work commute. For the record, I was averaging 40 miles per gallon using regular gasoline over a roughly two-month period. The results? Well, over the past month I averaged one mpg less (39 mpg) using the premium gasoline and paid an additional \$6.44 over that period for the privilege. Talk about feeling like a chump.

I'll bet a lot of suckers people who bought those magic pills felt the same way after they finally, er, measured their results too.

The lesson here is don't buy into the hype of thinking that just because something cost more it has to be better. Premium gasoline is intended for use on a very narrow niche of cars. If you aren't sure what type of fuel your car should be using, check your owner's manual.

The odds are that the manufacturer probably recommends good ol' regular 87 octane gasoline.





Help Prevent Car Trouble!

Attend the annual Tech Session at
British Car Specialists

Saturday, March 15, 10:00 am

British Car Specialists, 2060 North Wilson Way,
Stockton CA, 95205. Let David Nock know that
you will attend. (209) 948-8767

Healeydoc@sbcglobal.net

This year we are going to concentrate on vehicle safety and what to look for on your car. There are many places that we can have problems that are hidden that you rarely look at. We will inspect the frame for the common rust locations, brakes, hydraulic lines, fuel systems, common stress cracks on the frame and suspension issues that are commonly overlooked. Do you know how old your tires are? We commonly see cars with tires that are 10+ years old that have plenty of tread but are cracked and dangerous on the road. When did you last replace your spare tire?

British Car Specialists

Since 1957

- Restoration
- Used Parts
- New Parts
- Service
- Repairs



**Austin-Healey
Triumph
MG**

209-948-8767
2060 N. Wilson Way
Stockton, CA 95205
www.BritishCarSpecialists.com




Calendar of Events

Contact Dennis Gilroy to list an event:
Gilroy.crew@gmail.com. For a more complete list see
www.GoldenGateHealeys.com. You are advised to
verify the dates of events that are not ours.

March 15. GGAHC Annual Tech Session hosted by British Car Specialists in Stockton. See page 7 (at left).

March 22-23. Sears Point (Infineon Raceway) 24 hours of LeMons. www.24hoursoflemons.com

March 22-23. Historic Motor Sport Association races at Mazda Raceway in Laguna Seca, CA. <http://www.hmsausa.com/events/next.htm>. Look for a gaggle of racing Sprites including our Club member Greg Cory.

April 5. GGAHC Mt. Hamilton Tour. Page 8.

April 14. Pacific Coast Dream Machines show at Half Moon Bay Airport. <http://dreammachines.miramarevents.com/>

May 2-3. The Paradise British Car Club presents the bi-yearly event *North Meets South* at Pismo Beach. Page 10. www.paradisecarclubhome.com

May 3. GGAHC Lodi winery tour. Page 8.

May 10. (tentative). Jr. ROTC car show in Manteca. David Nock (209) 824-1562 Healeydoc@sbcglobal.net

May 10. Moraga Classic Car Show, Rheem Valley Shopping Center. <http://moragachamber.org/>

May 17-18. Marin-Sonoma Concours and Drive. www.marinsonomaconcours.org.

May 17-18. Sonoma Historic Motorsports Festival. www.racesonoma.com

May 18. United British Sports Car Club's show in Dixon. www.ubsc.org.

May 28—June 1. California Healey Week at Morro Bay, sponsored by the Austin Healey Association of Southern California. www.austin-healey.org. Page 9.

June 7. Pescadero Tour organized by Nancy McCroskey. **GGAHC** with Santa Cruz Sports Car Club. Information forthcoming.

June 8. Capitol Concours d'Elegance in Sacramento. www.shrinersconcours.com.

June 14. Tiburon Classic Car Show on Saturday, tour on Sunday. www.tiburonclassiccarshow.com.

June 23-27. Rendezvous 2014 at Bend, Oregon. Page 10. www.healey-oregon.org.

GGAHC Season Opener Brunch / Tour

April 5, 2014 @ 10 am

This year for our club season opener / tour we are trying something new. We will meet at Garré Vineyard & Winery in Livermore for a Saturday morning Brunch complete with eggs benedict, omelets, assorted fruits and all the fixings. Then we will take a leisurely drive up Mt. Hamilton to the Lick Observatory overlooking San Jose and the Silicon Valley.

At the Lick Observatory a docent will give us a personal tour of one of the telescopes. After the tour you can either return to the San Jose area via the western route, or on the eastern route to either the Livermore Valley or the Central Valley.

Cost: \$20.00 per person.
Please reserve your space
for this tour by March 29th.
Contact:

David and Jerri Nock
209-986-5910
healeydoc@verizon.net

Make your check out to
DAVID NOCK and mail it to:

David Nock
1235 Eastridge Place
Manteca Ca 95336



Meet at 10:00am, Garré Vineyard
7986 Tesla Rd, Livermore 94558
(At the corner of Greenville Rd and Tesla Rd)



4TH ANNUAL LODI WINERY TOUR

Saturday, May 3

Three wineries new to us are on the tour this year.

Oak Farm Vineyards, founded in 1864, is one of the oldest properties in the Central Valley. It specializes in small lot and single vineyard varietals. We will sample wines and cheeses beside their private lake.



The **Michael David Winery** was founded by Michael and David Phillips whose family has farmed in the Lodi area since the 1850's. They are known for brash wine names such as 7 Deadly Zins, 6th Sense Syrah, Earthquake, Freakshow, Incognito, Rapture, Lust, Gluttony, Sloth, and Rage. We lunch here.



Delicato Family Vineyards has a visitor facility adjacent to Highway 99 in Manteca, so you might have seen it while driving by. This is a much larger business than the other two.



In French, *répondez, s'il vous plait*. In the Lodi vernacular, please let David and Jerri know if you will attend.

David and Jerri Nock
209-986-5910
healeydoc@verizon.net

Cost: \$25 each. Make your check out to DAVID NOCK and mail it to:

David Nock
1235 Eastridge Place
Manteca Ca 95336

Depart at 9:30am from McDonald's, 914 Main Street, Oakley, CA 94509
(Intersection of Main St. & Highway 160)

California Healey Week 2014

Rich & Lynn Kahn

Need an excuse to drive your Healey? Our "cousins" to the south are holding their annual California Healey Week May 28th through June 1st. The location this year is beautiful, picturesque Morro Bay. This is a great group of people who love driving their Healeys.



Lynn and I attended California Healey Week two years ago in Big Bear. We were warmly welcomed and had a fantastic time. We met people and forged friendships during the event. Morro Bay is considerably north for these Southerners, but it makes it a great opportunity for us. This is a "must" if it has been awhile since you have driven your Healey on the Central Coast Highway 1. It would be very special if we travel in groups.

I understand that our own David Nock will be giving a tech session. There will be a poker run, drives (including some great wine tasting!), a car show and banquet. This meet makes no attempt to be like Rendezvous; it is just an elaborate Healey gathering in an awesome area with wonderful Healey roads. And it's not really an entire week.

This is the 40th anniversary of this event and Morro Bay is the site of the first California Healey Week. Let's help them celebrate! Contact me if you plan to attend and I will organize a caravan. tahoekahn@hotmail.com

California Healey Week at Morro Bay May 28—June 1

To celebrate the Austin Healey Association of Southern California's 40th Anniversary, we will return to Morro Bay where one of the early club events was held in 1975. The hotel is the Inn at Morro Bay. In addition to the planned activities outlined on the website (see www.austin-healey.org), there are many things to do in this beautiful beach city, including biking, kayaking, hiking, golfing, bird watching and wine tasting. Be sure to save the dates, and stay tuned to the website for additional announcements.

Schedule of Events (Partial)

Wednesday afternoon: Early arrival.

Thursday Morning. Poker Run Drive—A fun drive with 4 scheduled stops where you will receive a card at each stop.

Thursday Early Afternoon. Open. **Cocktail Hour** - three additional wild cards will be drawn, the car with the best poker hand wins. Dinner on your own.

Friday Morning & Early Afternoon. Leisurely drive to Paso Robles. Once there, participants will have a choice between visiting the Airport Museum or wine tasting/ shopping in Paso Robles. Lunch on your own.

Friday Afternoon. Tech Session with David Nock. Ladies event. Dinner on your own.

Saturday Morning. Car Wash at hotel and car show at the park in town. Lunch provided.

Saturday Rocker Cover Racing. Participants will have the opportunity to build and decorate a racer made from any Austin Healey rocker (or valve) cover.

Saturday Evening. Banquet dinner, awards and silent auction.



Collins Classics

Service • Repair • Restoration • Evaluation



(650) 685-4477
609 California Dr.
Burlingame, CA. 94010
collinsclassics@comcast.net



Pre-tour to Rendezvous 2014

Some of you will think it's too early to think about Rendezvous 2104. However, if you would like to join the pre-tour you must make reservations immediately. Presently there is a contingent of 11 cars and 18 people leaving from the North Bay.



The following is a synopsis of our pre-tour schedule. We will meet somewhere in the North Bay or Sacramento Valley on Friday, June 20th and proceed to Redding for our first night. The next day, Saturday, we will drive to Ashland, Oregon to attend a play "The Cocoanuts" at 1:30pm and spend the second night there. This is the reason for the early action; *reservations, especially for the play, need to be made immediately—before play tickets are sold out.* On Sunday we drive to Bend, arriving a day before Rendezvous actually begins. If you would like to receive more detailed information please contact Nick Klein.

Klein.ahc@att.net (408) 264-2411

Rendezvous 2014

June 23 - 27, 2014

The Austin-Healey Club of Oregon is putting on a big party! The 2014 Rendezvous will be held at the **RIVERHOUSE HOTEL** in **BEND, OREGON** from Monday, June 23 to Friday, June 27. Please call for room reservations now! Call 855-387-3443 and reference the Austin-Healey Rendezvous. Room rates are \$129 plus tax for a river view and \$119 plus tax for a non-river view.



The theme is **MARDI GRAS** for the Monday night buffet and the Thursday night Awards Banquet. Tuesday is the car show and lunch at Fort Rock Park in Sunriver. Wednesday is filled with tech sessions and tours, plus an auction in the evening. Thursday has Fun Day activities followed by the Awards Banquet. Depart for home on Friday.



Rendezvous 2014 Registration and Regalia forms are available at the Austin Healey Club of Oregon's web site, www.healey-oregon.org

Put your top down and head for Oregon! Bend promises sunshine! If you have any questions please contact Gary Jackson at 541-923-9766 evenings, or email to grjackson2@bendbroadband.com.

British Car Meet in Pismo Beach May 2-3

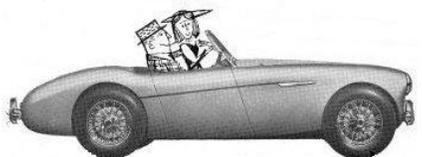


The Paradise British Car Club invites you to join us for our "British Invasion" themed event, May 2-3, 2014, in beautiful Pismo Beach, California.

Join us for the registration and hospitality party on Friday night, held on the open air roof-top patio at the SeaCrest Hotel. Saturday there will be a car show and outdoor catered lunch at a nearby park featuring music from the British invasion of the 1960's, such as the Beatles, Herman's Hermits, Rolling Stones, Kinks, and more. After the car show enjoy our car rally on the scenic rural roads of San Luis Obispo County. Our Awards Banquet will take place at the beautiful and historic Madonna Inn.

www.paradisecarclubhome.com

If you would like to join a caravan from the San Francisco Bay Area to Bend, Oregon, contact Dennis Gilroy (contact info appears on the last page of this newsletter). This is not the pre-tour organized by Nick Klein (above); this one will depart Sunday, overnight enroute, and arrive in Bend on Monday.



Golden Gate Austin Healey Club Board of Directors

President: Marty Allen. (510) 845-7585
martyallen@aol.com.

VP Membership: Nick Klein. (408) 264-2411
Klein.ahc@att.net.

VP Secretary: Lee Bardellini. (510) 582-6246
HeLeeEsq@aol.com

VP Treasurer: Dan Sekella. (925) 825-8966
Sekella@pacbell.net

VP Events: Dennis Gilroy. (650) 298-8036
Gilroy.crew@gmail.com

Delegate at-Large. David Nock. (209) 824-1562
Healeydoc@sbcglobal.net

Plus David Cross and Loren Parks, listed below

Newsletter & Web Site Management

Editor: Loren Parks (530) 893-8643
LorParks@gmail.com

Web site: www.GoldenGateHealeys.com

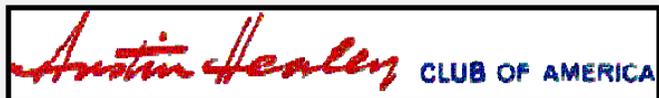
Webmaster: David Cross (408) 893-4912
dcross95020@yahoo.com

Contact Loren Parks for advertising rates.

Healey Happenings is published on the web site with a three-month lag.

The Golden Gate Austin Healey Club

is affiliated nationally with the



Healey Happenings is the official publication of the Golden Gate Austin Healey Club, and is published for the benefit of its members. Material which appears in Golden Gate Healey Happenings represents the opinions of the authors and does not express the positions of the Golden Gate Austin Healey Club unless specifically noted. We do our best to assure accuracy, but cannot be held responsible for omissions or errors.

Healeymarket

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



For sale: 1958 Austin Healey 100-6

Ted Noble: (916) 543-2982

Due to physical limitations I must sell my 1958 100-6 which I purchased new. The mileage is approximately 162,000; the engine was rebuilt 38,000 miles ago and brought to AH 3000 specs. Receipts are available for all



major work, including removal of all body dings and repainting Healey Blue.

Please make an offer for this one-owner beauty.

For sale: Original fenders for BJ8

Front right and left rear. Need some work but they fit. Photos available. \$50 each.

Don Newman: dnewman2@charter.net
(530) 542-3641

Mr. Andy Pear of England wants to purchase a Healey 3000 (100/6 or later) to restore. He will arrange shipping. Contact: Andrew.Pear@me.com.

