



The British Fall Classic

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The British Fall Classic

Oct 14th & 15th

Morgan Hill, Ca.



It was a beautiful day in Morgan Hill... After surviving a bit of a traffic jam just a few miles north of my destination, I had arrived at the meeting point for today's drive... The Drive was organized by Joe Cain... It was quite fun with 2 groups of cars heading off in different directions... Joe had set up the drive so we would arrive at our stops at the same time, but he threw in a place along the routes where we would pass each other several times... We all had fun waving at each other as the other group went driving by...

Our first stop was at the Guglielmo Winery which has been in business since 1925... We tasted about 4 of their wines and got a brief history of the winery from George Guglielmo, who was quite a nice fellow... After the winery stop we ventured off to our next destination and once again passed the other group on the way... Way to go Joe, this is fun...

The next stop was at the Wings of History which has a couple of buildings filled with some very unique flying machines... They even have a replica of the Kitty Hawk, flown by the Wright Brothers... There is also a small shop that reproduces airplane propellers... Pretty cool place, if you find yourself in the area drop by and check it out...

After our drive for the day, we went to Bill Hiland's shop "On The Road Again" for some socializing, food and drinks... Bill has a very nice shop filled with some pretty nice cars... The place is so clean you could eat off the floor...

The following morning there was a car show on Monterey Street... There were lots of beautiful cars for the judges, armed with clip boards to judge the winners for the day... The GGAHC was well represented and brought home 3 First Place Trophies, and 2 Third Place Trophies... Well Done...



Annual GGAHC Elections

Pursuant of our bylaws it is necessary to open elections annually.

Anyone who would like to pursue one of our elected positions please submit your intentions to any board member.

Offices available are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership

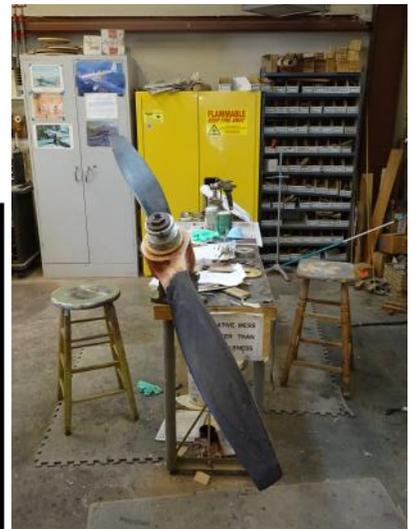
We need to replace our beloved Vice President, Lee Bardellini.

Editor, Regalia, Activities Director, National Delegate and Webmaster are appointed by the elected board members listed above.

Voting will be take place at our Christmas Party on December 2nd.

If unopposed, current officers will remain.





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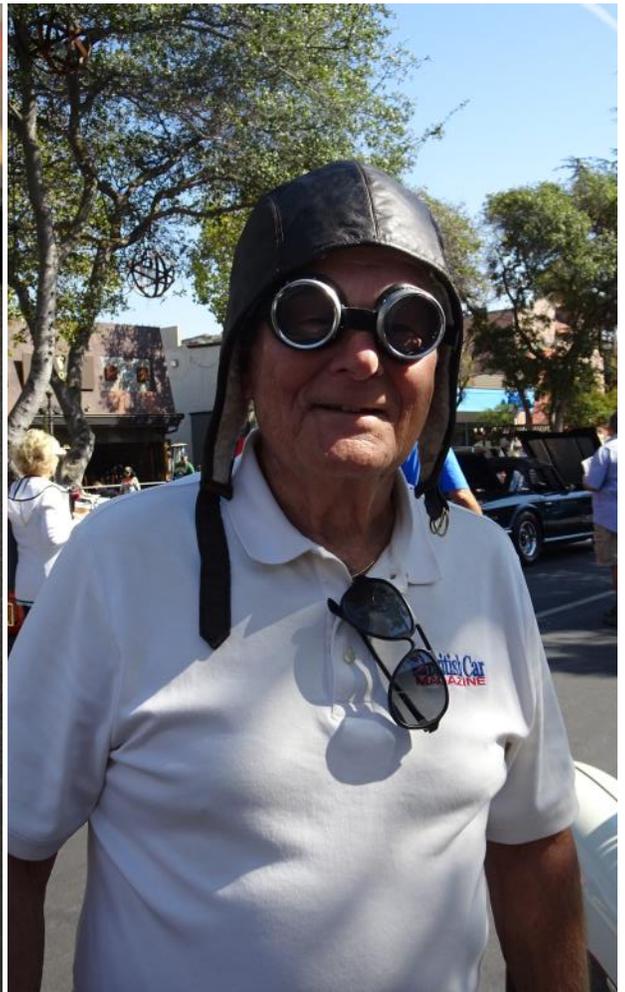
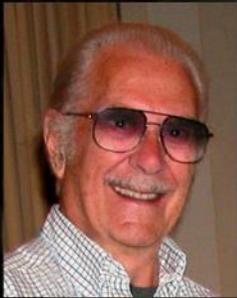

Gerry Coker's Welcome

To The 2017 Monterey Healey International

Own your copy of this historic events opening video, celebrating Gerry Coker's 95th Birthday.

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billmeade@100mregistry.com



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Attendees:

Blair, Robert
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Brown, Elliott & Ginny
Kahn, Rich & Lynn - [First Place Winner !!!](#)
Klein, Nick & Sandy - [Third Place Winner !!!](#)
Meade, Bill - [First Place Winner !!!](#)
Medzyk, Irene & Harami, Harry
Parsons, Terry & Linda
Sonneman, Michael
Turney, John & Cathy - [Third Place Winner !!!](#)



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Kahn's Kahnsiderations

Rich Kahn
GGAHC President

November 2017 Healey Happenings

As we move towards a new year with renewed driving options and Healey events I am reflecting on what an eventful year this has been.

Our road trips were few and far between, mostly due to heat and the Monterey preparations.

The numerous wildfires effected many of our members and locations we enjoy driving to.

As far as I could determine all our members are safe. I hope this next driving season will have happier diversions.

Please help by putting on road trips and wine events.

They are pretty easy and fun to do.

At Monterey Healey Week I spoke with several attendees about some clever things they have done to their Healey's.

I'd like to start a small column to share some of these ideas. Here are a few so you will get the concept:

1. I have pushed my battery on my BJ8 forward to allow two quarts of oil to sit under the battery restraints. They are secure and out of the way.
2. I use Rain-X wiper fluid in the windscreen washer bottle. It keeps the rain beading up and less wiper is needed.
3. My rear license plate is on a spring loaded door hinge preventing it from scraping on steep driveways.

Now it is your turn. Please submit your ideas to Mike Sonneman for the newsletter.

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Ms. Sparkle Goes to the Races Monterey Healey Week 2017

Some men will do anything for their wives. If it involves car parts. Mine made me a rocker cover racer. Do you know what a rocker cover is? If not, we could be BFFs because I was once like you, *and* oblivious to the theory of natural selection, to wit, that Austin Healey's are a superior species as evidenced by their survival. And their enablers' ability to ensnare unwitting accomplices into spending large amounts of money that said accomplice would rather put toward, say, a bathroom remodel.

It begins innocently enough:

MyHusbandTheEngineer: "So, I saw you smile at the rocker cover contest at the last car show."

Me: "You did?"

MHTE: "Big, broad smile. You even laughed. You were clearly having a good time." That was not my most vivid memory of the meet .

Me: "Oh, I must have been laughing inappropriately."

Intuiting that my husband was about to spend money, and to keep his attention diverted from that thing I saw on his computer screen that costs more than an Infinity shower tray, I bit. "OK, you can make me a pink poodle rocker cover, studded with Swarovski crystals. You know, like that little Limoges poodle box on the mantel." *Fait accompli*—it involved car parts. "Ms. Sparkle" was born.

Money is no object...anymore. I am the pit crew. And anyway, this was something we could do together involving car parts and poodles and pink. I became Swarovski's Customer of the Month. I also researched the "10 Essential Tools of NASCAR Pit Crew Members," which are: satellite weather monitor, performance computer, electrical generator, car jack, duct tape, Bear Bond (for repairs resistant to duct tape), and a baseball bat to hammer out dents that might slow the car's velocity. I purchased replacement crystals and Elmer's glue.

Showtime...

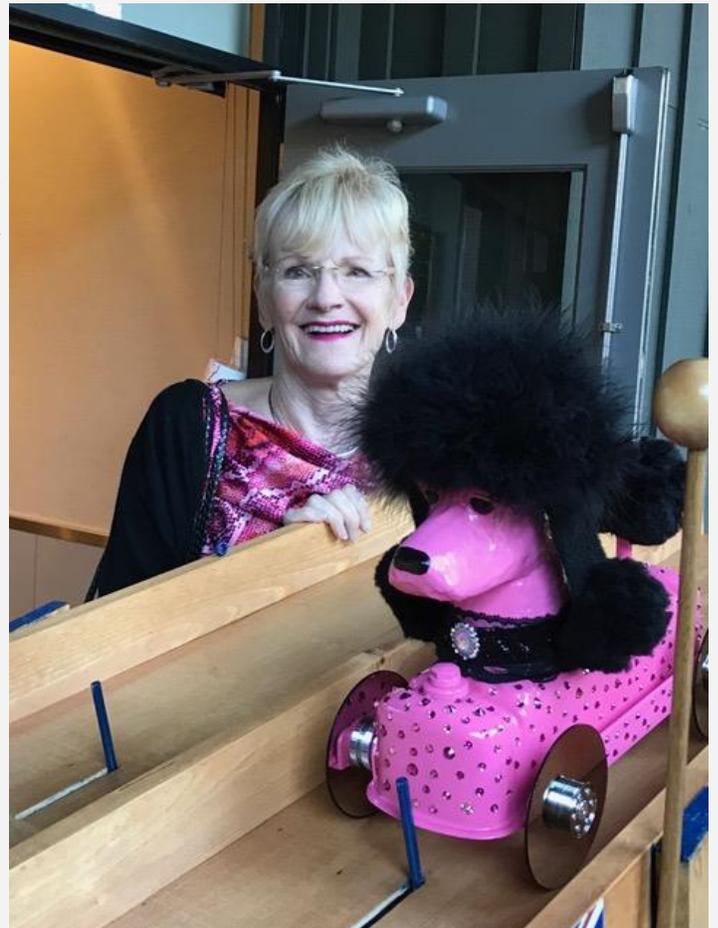
Ms. Sparkle debuted before an audience of predominantly *men*. How else to explain all those Swarovski crystals and *second place*?! OK, the Aussie's racer was a feat of engineering, a stunning marvel of 3-D imaging. And Adrian and Lorraine Neuman were such gracious winners. Plus, America needs to maintain good relations with Australia for obvious political reasons that begin with, oh, never mind.

But Ms. Sparkle does want to thank Debbie and Tony (Salmon) Trentacost's "Barn Find Racer" for ceding the best of three races to her in the speed trials. Such a gentleman, that Barn Find.

As her pit boss, I take issue with the gossip about bribery. There was nothing spelled out in the rules that specifically excluded bribes. Also missing were the words "graft" and "payola." At the worst, those Hershey's Kisses were *quid pro quos*. And they didn't work. End of story!

Ms. Sparkle is back at Chez Poodle licking her wounds or something. And MyHusbandTheEngineer and I are reminiscing about how you meet the nicest people when you bring your dog—and how bribery doesn't work when you're only negotiating with Hershey's Kisses.

Cathy Turney



An Ambitious Fall Drive in the Mountains

By Jerri & David Nock

The Healey season could not pass without a mountain drive to see some Fall Colors. We asked some adventurers to join us on the drive.

Saturday morning on Oct 14th we met at the Black Bear diner on Hwy 120 in Manteca CA. Participants were: Mark and Patty Lewis from Clayton CA in their 1963 BJ7, Karl and Barbara Knutsen from Manteca CA in their 1978 Porsche and David and I in our 1957 BN4 departed at 8:30 AM.

The weather was crisp and cold as the group made our way from Hwy 120 onto Hwy 108 and began the climb toward Sonora Pass. We had hoped to see some Fall Colors, but unfortunately were met with brown dried leaves instead of the rich golds we had anticipated. Were we to late? We stopped near Pinecrest at the overlook to Donnell Lake for a much needed bathroom break and to stretch the legs a bit.

While there, one of the cars required a road side tech session. Some motorcyclists had great fun offering to assist and ultimately offering a free seat to one of us as their transportation "is working". After a magnet , mirror and Tupperware containers were utilized, success and we were back on the road. Hint, make sure to always carry a magnet and mirror in your tool kit.

The convoy climbed and wound up and over Sonora Pass. Elevation 9623 ft. The Fall Colors from there on were not a disappointment. We turned onto Hwy 395 North and drove alongside the Walker River. Many fisherman were enjoying the beautiful day and river as well. We also saw a bald eagle carrying a fish as it flew up and over us as we drove along. What a magnificent sight! Maybe it was having better luck than the fishermen?

We stopped for a picnic lunch beside the river. Good food, conversation and scenery to the background sight and sounds of the river rushing by us. We saw many other birds and wildlife on the other side of the river. The group had brought binoculars that made the viewing more spectacular. Then it was time to get back in our cars again and continue the drive.

We turned onto Hwy 89 and up and over Monitor Pass, elevation 8314 ft. The cars were getting a workout, but going strong. I found myself happier and more peaceful the farther we drove. There is something about mountain air. Then back down and turn onto Hwy 4. Up and over Ebbetts Pass, elevation 8730 ft. We stopped for some photo ops along the way. Then on our way down Hwy 4 .

As we passed the Marine mountain training center near Bridgeport, we heard the rumble of a huge plane , looked up and saw, the Osprey, that was practicing take off and landings. What a sight! As it descended and rose almost directly over us, the rotation of the propellers shook us. We just had to stop for a short time to watch, but as the sun was setting, it was time to move on toward dinner.

The Porsche driver, Karl, wanted to stop at Lake Alpine Lodge so we opted for dinner on the deck amid the pine and evergreen trees. The waitress told us that we got in under the wire as this was their last dinner serving of the season. They were closing the next day until next season. The food was good and something we should keep in mind as a stop on future drives of the area.

Back on Hwy 4 to find a gas station before heading home. We found that the people were very curious and friendly. We had a man ask if there was a car show in town and Mark answered, "there is now." He is pretty good with one liners Patty says. I have to agree.

Darkness was upon us as we drove home. One car left us in Farmington and the Lewis' continued on Hwy 4 toward home as we turned off toward Manteca. All told, it was about a 13 hour day. We had packed overnight bags in case we wanted to stop, but we were all having such a beautiful drive, we decided to continue all the way through. I would do the trip again next year. I bet that makes David happy to have in writing! ►►

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► Happy Healeying! Don't be afraid to drive these cars. I think the cars were as happy as the drivers and passengers. Don't leave them cooped up in the garage. They want to get out as much as you do! See you on the road.





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Life experiences with a Healey.

At the age of 18 our family was sent to Australia for my dad's work. We moved to the small town of Gladstone, Queensland for about 1-1/2 years. As soon as we arrived my dad started working on the large expansion of an Alumina plant just outside of town. He also arranged for me to work with one of the many contractors that were on the site. Once I had a little money in my pocket I started looking for my first car. As luck would have it the neighbor directly across the street had this little white sports car in the car port. It had been sitting there for quite some time and I approached him about selling it. He told me sure but I should clear it with my dad since the car needed quite a bit of work and parts were hard to get due to our location. It was my first introduction to Austin Healey's and this one was a 100-4 with leather straps and louvers on the hood. I spoke to dad about buying the car and he advised against it since we didn't have a garage or the tools to do the work. He was right and I was heart broken. I swore that one day I would have one of those.

Two years later I had returned to southern California to start college and I needed a car so I started looking. I found a sandy gold, 1962 AH BJ7 tri carb on a car lot in Long Beach. \$900 dollars changed hands and I owned my first Healey. The gearbox made a funny noise but I didn't care. The noise continued for about 2 months then it made a terrible sound and didn't shift well anymore. I bought a rebuilt transmission with an overdrive from a small British repair shop for \$250. Got it installed and hit the starter button. The engine turned over a half a revolution and then stopped dead with a loud "CLUNK". After removing and installing the transmission twice more I finally figured out that the pressure plate was too large for the bell housing. So the only option I had was to cut a small 1" hole in the housing where it was hitting. Problem solved!!!

Then there was the time on a cross country trip in winter that a bird hit the top of the windshield and caused the chrome strip at the top to raise up an inch or so. Normally this wouldn't have been much of an issue except that it started snowing and I was driving through northern Texas and into New Mexico. There was so much snow coming in that it was starting to build up a 2-3 inch layer on me and the inside of the car. Now we all know how hot the inside of a Healey can get, but not this time. I had the heater turned up all the way, a woolly hat pulled down to the top of my eyelids, a scarf wrapped around my neck and face so all I had to look through was a tiny slit between the hat and scarf, a blanket wrapped around my torso and legs and a pair of insulated leather ski gloves. You should have seen the gas station attendants face when I got out of the car dressed like that and covered in snow. Could only happen in a Healey. I drove that car for about 2-1/2 years and sold it to a friend of mine who drove it for another 3 yrs. We're still good friends to this day. When I sold it I swore again I'd have another one "someday"!

Someday came a few years later when I found one sitting up on blocks in an acquaintances backyard. \$250 changed hands and I was the proud owner of my second Healey. Another tri-carb. It didn't run and I worked on it all winter rebuilding the engine and getting it back on the road just in time to have to sell it because I lost my job and my wife was pregnant with our first child. I seem to do a lot of swearing since I "swore once more" that I would have another one some day.

Well now the years have gone by it's 1985 and I'm playing ball with my son. The ball goes over into an older neighbors yard and I knock on his door and tell him what has happened. We go into his back yard and there sits a banged up, jacked up covered up 3000 MK1. I ask him if he wants to sell it since it's obvious it's been sitting there neglected for some time and those dreaded words flow from his lips, "No, I'm going to fix it up someday". The car has been sitting for 5 yrs already. I continue to ask him every now and then for the next 26 years. Then I'm talking to his son one day and he mentions that it's not his dad that doesn't want to sell it, it's his mom as it was his parents car all through college. Then he says "let me work on her since they will never do anything with it". 3-4 months go by and I get a phone call, If you still want the Healey come and get it. 26 and a half years have gone by since I found this one and now it's mine. I've got my "Third one".

Well it's taken me another 6 years to restore it since I bought it, I'm 63 years old and the car is in better shape than I am. It's been on the road since February of this year and I'm having a ball with it. ►►

► The wife and I really enjoy the rides and the attention it gets. She loves the experience of the wind through her hair. I wish I could experience that again but alas my hair is long gone as is my youth but I'm still enthusiastic if that counts for something.

We took it up to the All British Field meet in Portland over the Labor Day weekend, there were over 800 vehicles present. I took first place "Peoples Choice Award in my class, I'm very appreciative of other peoples comments about how nice it is.

I love these rough and tumble pieces of engineering, the smooth flowing lines, the crisp sound of the exhaust under acceleration, the feeling that you are part of the road and your surroundings. There is something that just reaches out and grabs you when one comes into view. Most of the younger generation have never seen one and they are always asking, "What is it?" "It looks so cool". It attracts their attention and they want to know all about it. I pray that there will be another generation after us that will be the caretakers of these beautiful pieces of rolling art and appreciate the rough and tumble driving experience they give us. I feel so fortunate that I've lived in the same period of time in which they were built, had the finances to be able to afford them and lived long enough to have had and enjoyed three of them.

Peter Davies



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GGAHC CHRISTMAS PARTY

Planned just for you!

Saturday, December 2, 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm
Trader Vic's, Emeryville
9 Anchor Drive, Emeryville, CA 94605

Everyone seemed to enjoy last year's location so we are returning to Trader Vic's in Emeryville (just south of the Berkeley Marina). Trader Vic's started over 80 years ago in San Francisco and moved to the Emeryville location 40 years ago. The room for our afternoon event has a view of the marina as well as an outside deck.

The annual Christmas Party is the last event we do each season and Healey's are optional!

Take advantage of this opportunity to wish each other a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and start thinking about all the great drives you'll attend in 2018!

The Club will once again underwrite a portion of this event, which is how we are able to keep the cost at \$25 per person this year.

Upon arrival you will receive a glass of wine. A delicious selection of appetizers will be passed from noon until about 12:45 pm. A three-course sit-down lunch will follow with a wedge salad, your choice of Wood-fired Salmon or Wood-fired N.Y. Strip for your entree followed by Dark Chocolate Mousse for dessert.

If you have never attended one of our Christmas Parties, consider attending this one.

Meet some new people, reconnect with old friends and enjoy the festivities. Fill out the attached reservation form and mail it off with your check before November 20th. Room is limited to 80 people so send in your reservation now!





Reservation Form

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Driver's Name: _____

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Enter number of lunches:

_____ I would like the Salmon Lunch

_____ I would like the Steak Lunch

The price is \$25 per person.

Make Checks payable to Golden Gate Austin Healey Club.

Must be received no later than November 20th.

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Healeyrich@hotmail.com.

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Contact Mike Sonneman 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



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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.

Dec 2nd **GGAHC** - Christmas Party

Please see Golden Gate Austin Healey Club website for event details:
<http://www.goldengatehealeys.com/site/index.php/events/>

From the Editor



Mike Sonneman
GGAHC Newsletter Editor

Keep those Biographies coming your fellow members want to learn more about you...

Don't be shy...

I'm still waiting for some strange and funny stories that people have experienced while driving their Healey's...

I would also like some stories on how couples met each other and how long they have been together...

Please feel free to forward me any stories you may have to share...

Please include a photo if possible, it would be a great complement to your story...

Thanks



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

For Sale: 1964 Austin Healey 3000 BJ8 - Garaged - No Rust
77,917 miles. New Wire Wheels in 2015.
Asking Price \$30,000



Cris Hamilton (415) 264-3775
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