



# REGIONAL RUMBLIN'S



Vol. 2021, Issue 8 NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH TEXAS AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB August 2021  
["INTERIM" STAHC WEBSITE](#) & [FACEBOOK](#)



## HEALEY OF THE MONTH!

Story on pages 3 & 4

(Editor's note: if AHCA can have a Healey of the Month on their calendar, why not have a club member's Healey of the Month in our newsletter? If you'd like for your car to appear in future issues as our Healey of the Month let me know at: [rborden@gvvc.com](mailto:rborden@gvvc.com))

## RUMBLIN'S ROAD MAP:

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and Appointed Positions**

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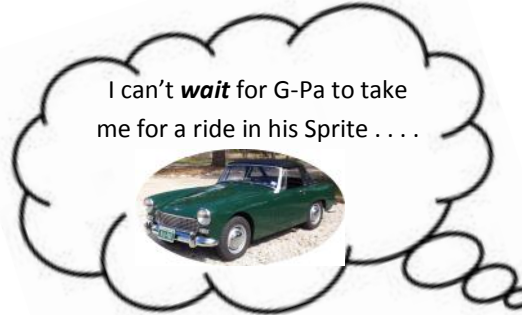
**Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:**  
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[defwhit@satx.rr.com](mailto:defwhit@satx.rr.com)

**South Texas All British Car Day  
Representative: AVAILABLE -  
Contact any Officer above**

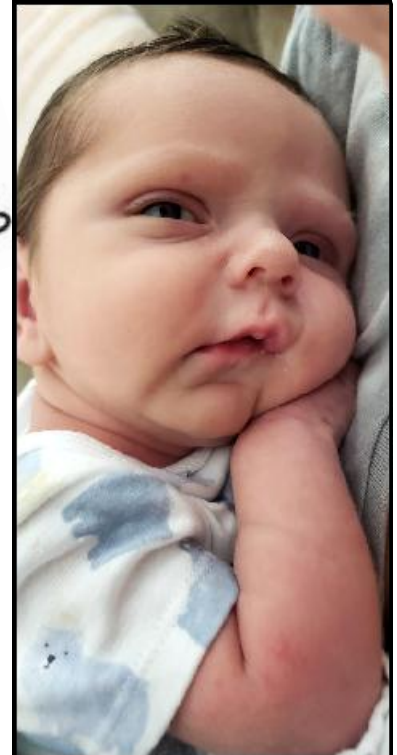
**Facebook Administrator:**  
**Jaime Molina 512-858-9235**  
[tjmolina@gmail.com](mailto:tjmolina@gmail.com)

**STAHC'S NEWEST HEALEY ENTHUSIAST!!**



**Introducing:**

Benjamin Avery Borden, born July 21, 2021, to G-Pa Ron's and G-Ma Lera's son, Brad and his wife Astrid. Little Ben and his mommy and daddy live in Lewisville, Texas. Ron and Lera lived in Denton for 28 years. Brad and his brother, Jeff, grew up there and the boys both graduated from Ryan HS in Denton. During that time Brad spent countless hours in



Dad's Sprite while it sat inert in the garage awaiting restoration. He put thousands of "dream" miles on the Sprite while competing in, and winning, every rode race that Europe and the US of A had to offer! Brad finally got to drive it for real a couple of years ago when he visited Ron and Lera in Boerne. Someday Ben will no doubt be strapped in the Sprite and the fire lit in the third generation Borden to enjoy this one-owner Healey!

**THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL IS BACK!!!**

**Join us on Saturday, August 21, 2021, at 2 P.M. at the**

**Oro Bianco Italian Creamery**

Their address is **503 Main Street, Blanco, 78606**. That's one block north of the square on US Hwy 281. (Anyone for lunch before at the **Redbud Café**, a block away???)

Visit their website at: <https://www.robiancomilk.com/> to lust over the flavors of gelato available.



## SOUTH TEXAS AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB'S HEALEY OF THE MONTH - AUGUST, 2021



**Jim Richmond's 1955 BN1**



### MY BLUE HEALEY (BN1)

*By Jim Richmond*

My Healey experience started in my early childhood in the fifties. Before I had a drivers license my dad, who always liked English sports cars, but never could afford one, took me to a Nash dealer who had on display a Nash Healey. I was smitten!

Fast forward to the early mid-sixties my brother bought a used 1962 Sprite with a 948cc engine. We had a lot of fun with this car, including a speed event at Nelson's Ledges a racetrack east of Cleveland. It was parked next to a real Cobra and we removed the windshield. At work in 1966 I found out that the son of one of my co-workers wanted to sell his 1964 Sprite with a 1098cc engine to purchase a Triumph Spitfire. I bought it and became an Austin-Healey owner. In 1967 my brother bought a new Sprite with a 1275cc engine. Again, we had fun with this car including a trip to Watkins Glenn for the 1969 Formula 1 Race.

About a year later, after a slight fender bender, I sold the 1964 Sprite for a 1600 BMW. After owning a BMW, Mercury Capri and a Fiat 124 Spider, I decided that I made a mistake selling the 1964 Sprite. In the late 70s while living in Houston I bought a 1964 Austin-Healey 3000 from my broth-

er and sold it three years later to a neighbor because it had a rusty outrigger. Mistake number two! After no Healeys for about a year I bought a basket case 1960 Bugeye Sprite with the intention of fixing it up to "original condition" (read concours condition). It never made it. This is same car that you read about in Rumblins "Improving a Bugeye". Fifteen years would go by, and we moved to Phoenix and to Indianapolis and I realized I missed driving an Austin-Healey.

A fellow member of the Austin-Healey Club of Central Indiana had decided to sell his BN1 and purchase a BN2 with some M modifications. I became a drivable Austin-Healey owner.



(Continued on page 4)

**STAHC'S HEALEY OF THE MONTH - AUGUST, 2021** continued

With ownership came maintenance. And I did most of the maintenance including replacing the clutch. The one exception: welding the broken head. One day about seven years ago I took the then red BN1 for a drive of about thirty miles. When I got home the brake peddle was at the top with no play. I realized that one of the wheels was stuck and I fixed that. In the process I got to spend a lot of time under the car between fixing the problem and bleeding the brakes (nasty Job) and noticed the leaking of fluid from everything that had fluid had intensified and there was some rust. I realized that the leak from the gearbox meant the gearbox had to be removed and the rust had to be welded. I had removed the gearbox for the clutch replacement before and did not want to weld structural members. I had always

thought that someday I wanted to have a proper restoration of the BN1.

Someday was today! After considering the cost I decided to take the car to Fourintune in Wisconsin for the restoration. Tom Kovacs and his wife Kaye, especially since they sent almost weekly pictures of the whole process, were amazing. They came in on budget and on time. It came time to pick a color (colour). I have always liked ice blue. Tom pointed out that early BN1 came in non-metallic and metallic. Although my Healey is a later car I decided on non-metallic because it could be painted at different times and was easier to touch up. Jeff the painter did a perfect job.

After a year here is the BN1.



The day the restoration arrived



It has won 1<sup>st</sup> place three time at the Boerne All British Car Days.



## DELEGATES MEETING AT CONCLAVE 2021

*By Jim Richmond*

Every Conclave includes a delegates meeting. Normally the meeting does not have any business requiring the delegates to vote and the purpose is to announce information. This Conclave was no exception. President Gary Feldman conducted the meeting.

Conclave 2021 had 156 registrations and about 140 Austin-Healeys. Next year's meet will be a joint venture between the New England Region of AHCA and the Austin-Healey Sports & Touring Club called Enclave in celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the introduction of the Austin-Healey marque. It will be held in the Pocono mountains of Northern Pennsylvania at the Kalahari Resort.

Last year's Zoom meeting of delegates held November 7 & 8 was a success. For more on this Zoom meeting see Rumblins for December 2020 and January 2021.

AHCA insurance for liability and officers has changed requiring reporting of speed driving events of local clubs.

Neil Anderson and Bill Cantrall visited McPherson College on the way to Conclave and Neil gave the following report. The first recipient of a scholarship by the Donald M. Healey Fund is now working for the Bugeye Guy and so is another graduate of the McPherson auto restoration program. The current recipient of a scholarship of the DMH Fund is working on a 1950s Mercedes Benz.

McPherson College will be featured in a future Healey Marque Magazine. The DMH Fund is supported by AHCA and STAHC.

The fall Delegates meeting is planned to be in person this year in Indianapolis the first full weekend in November.

## MORE IMAGES FROM CONCLAVE 2021



## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION UPDATES

Membership directories have been mailed. You should have received it at least several weeks ago. Delegates have approved going to an every two year cycle for the printed directories so the next one will be in 2023.

In a Zoom meeting last month delegates also voted unanimously to purchase a new software product (Club Express) to manage membership and provide a new website; the link ([healeyclub.org](http://healeyclub.org)) will be the same. This will provide a better way for both the national and regional clubs and members to keep information current and pay dues. The current system was hand-built in the 1990's and is woefully outdated. Because the new program will add approximately \$3930 to the budget for 2021 the delegates were required to vote for implementation. The new system is expected to go live in a few months in time for the next membership

renewal cycle.

We also received a plea from national to keep mailing addresses updated. The club pays ~\$600 a year for returned magazines (actually they only the back page is returned). The Post Office does not forward magazines. While a few are returned due to mistakes by the post office, most are returned because members did not provide an address update. A common issue is with people that live part of the year in a different location but don't update their info. An address change can be made by going to [healeyclub.org](http://healeyclub.org), logging in and editing your information. If you're having trouble making the update let Tina Adkins know at [stahcmembership@icloud.com](mailto:stahcmembership@icloud.com). Please make the change over a month before you move as the mailing list is sent to the printer the first week of the month before the issue date of the magazine.

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(Editor's note: The above is a combination of information provided by Tina Adkins, STAHC Membership, and Jim Richmond, AHCA delegate.)

The Club Express software package will not only provide the capacity for an updated AHCA website but also for individual club websites. With this in mind the current ["INTERIM" STAHC WEBSITE](#), along with our [FACEBOOK](#) page, will remain as the sources of club information until the Club Express software's website builder feature can be learned and evaluated. At that time a decision will be made as to whether to move to club's website to Club Express or another web host.)

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## MEMBERSHIP DUES LOWERED FOR THE REMAINDER 2021!

Per AHCA Membership Director Mike Schneider dues to renew or join STAHC/AHCA for the remainder of 2021 have been reduced to \$45.00, \$35.00 for AHCA plus \$10.00 for STAHC. This is the amount will remain in place until September 30, 2021. If renewing or joining on or after October 1, 2021, the amount, which will cover the **remainder of 2021 plus all of 2022**, will revert to \$50.00 for AHCA plus \$10.00 for STAHC, \$60.00 total.

**To join/renew contact:** Tina Adkins at [stahcmembership@icloud.com](mailto:stahcmembership@icloud.com)

**Or go to:** [healeyclub.org](http://healeyclub.org)





## UPDATED Hotel Information

September 17 - 19, 2021

**YOU NEED TO BOOK ROOM ONLINE WITH THE DIRECT LINK BELOW, NOW !**

**There are limited rooms available.**

ROOM RATE is \$108.00 per night / this rate doesn't include taxes. Dates are Sept. 16th Thurs (for early birds) thru Sept. 19th Sun (for those who would like to stay a little longer and enjoy what Granbury has to offer.) Please Follow steps below to the Best Western Granbury Inn & Suites **DIRECT LINK** for your room.

**DIRECT LINK that you must use to book your room:**

[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.44579.html?groupId=1N0MR0L7](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.44579.html?groupId=1N0MR0L7)

**You will receive from Best Western Granbury Inn & Suites a email confirmation once you booked using the DIRECT LINK.**

If you don't receive this, call the hotel direct (817)573-4239 7:00am-3:00pm ask Pam or Pranav for assistance. Texas Healey RoundUp is working directly with Hotel.

**You must book room by Wednesday, Sept. 1st, 2021. CANCELLATION is the RESPONSIBILITY OF PERSON WHO BOOKED ROOM.** Room cancellation requires a 48 hr notice. You can call hotel direct to cancel room (817)573-4239

# TEXAS HEALEY ROUNDUP 40

September 17-19, 2021



<https://www.visitgranbury.com/>

<https://granburysquare.com/where-to-dine/>





**SOUTH TEXAS AUSTIN-HEALEY**

**CLUB (STAHC)** is an area club of the Austin-Healey Club of America, the largest Austin-Healey club in the world. STAHC is one of 47 independent area clubs and was sanctioned by AHCA in 1979. STAHC covers the Austin, San Antonio and surrounding areas of South Texas.

Membership is open to owners and enthusiasts of all cars bearing the name HEALEY. Ownership of a Healey is not required. For membership information please contact Bob or Tina Adkins at:

(512) 264-2042.

Membership information is also available at:

[stahcmembeship@icloud.com](mailto:stahcmembeship@icloud.com)

You can join online at:

[www.healeyclub.org](http://www.healeyclub.org)

Current and past issues of *Rumblins*, as well as other information about our club, can be found at the STAHC web site:

[www.STAHC.org](http://www.STAHC.org)

STAHC is on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/southtexasaustinhealeyclub>

**TECH SESSIONS**

(Tech sessions can be a get-together of members to help a fellow club member with a specific problem or a task that requires, or is easier, with one or more helpers. A Tech session can also be a meeting where a member, or non-member, with some particular skill or expertise demonstrates how to accomplish a particular task. Tech Session attendees may be helpers, teachers, learners, tool suppliers or any combination of the above. Tech session hosts usually supply light refreshments. Beer is recommended.

If you would like to host a tech session please send notification to Ron Borden at [rborden@gvtc.com](mailto:rborden@gvtc.com) as far in advance as possible, but no less than one week ahead of the session date. Your request will be forwarded to all members on the *Rumblin's* e-mail list.)

**TOOL BOX**

The purpose of the Tool Box is to assemble, and make available for use by STAHC members, specialty tools that are used in the restoration and/or maintenance of Healeys. In general, such tools will be those that are too expensive for an individual member to acquire for one time, or infrequent use.

Currently, the STAHC Tool Box contains the following:

- Lift-the-Dot Hand Punch. (Punches center hole and prong holes for installation of Lift-the-Dot fasteners for tops and tonneau covers. Moss Motors No. 226-105.)
- Texas Fastening Tool
- Snap Fastening tool
- Valve Guide Reamer size .281 for intake and exhaust standard size valve guides used on all Sprite and Midget A series engines 1958 - 1974
- Engine leveler (for removing or installing an engine)
- Carb Synchronizer
- Colourtune Carb Synchronizer
- Wire Wheel Spoke tool
- 1/8" OD pipe bending tool
- Panel & Trim Removal Tool Set
- CD Workshop Manual for Sprite MK 2, 3 & 4.

If you would like to borrow any of these tools, please contact **David Ayer** at: [dbayer@swbell.net](mailto:dbayer@swbell.net) or 210-775-8168.

All articles appearing in *Rumblin's* represent the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily represent the opinions of *Rumblin's*, South Texas Austin-Healey Club, or the Austin-Healey Club of America. Neither *Rumblin's*, STAHC, nor AHCA is responsible for the accuracy or safety of technical information presented herein. If you choose to use such technical information, you do so at your own risk.