



Regional Rumblin's



Vol. 8 2025 Newsletter of the South Texas Austin Healey Club

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**Special Healey Artwork by Joe
Johnson, AHC of Kansas City**

President's Rumblin's

Hello, Friends.

The *Light Northerly Breeze* I hoped for us last issue made it; though it was a notable blow in places. Exciting! Northern US Healey owners are writing about the end of the driving season and how to store a Healey for the Winter. Uh, no! October and November are my favorite Texas months; moderating temps, leaves turning colors, lake waters are still warm, birds are on the wing. You can think of more. Hope you can *Seize the wheel* and make it a driving *Day*.

Continued thanks to all who have been working on Texas Healey Roundup 45. Remember, if you want to be an active planning participant or have an activity you want to help produce, let Julie or myself know. It's worth repeating, the recently re-modeled host hotel Holiday Inn Express has plenty of car/trailer parking. Miles of scenic byways and hill country views will be featured in the Rally. A fun Saturday evening banquet on the edge of the Hill country is waiting for you. Plus, there will be an encore presentation of a Conclave 2025 talk.

It was great to see a good representation of Austin Healeys at the South Texas All British Car Day in Gruene and the Texas All British Car Days in Marble Falls. If you happened to participate in other car events of note to



the membership, let Melinda know; we would all like to hear about it.

I am delighted to welcome new members this fall. As I have it from the latest ACHA directory and personal messages we have been joined by; Rob and Lauralee Simons of San Antonio, Brian Chinnock and Amy Perry of Austin, Charles Jeffery of Spicewood, transferring from GC, Michael Kneale of Aransas Pass, plus one or two more on the way. Look for their Austin Healey stories in coming issues. I would encourage each new member to get involved with our RoundUp 45 production. It is great way to get acquainted and learn more about your Chapter. Again, just let Julie or myself know of your interest.

Looking immediately ahead, the Holiday/Christmas party, including a short business meeting is always fun, followed by a January 2026 planning meeting and lunch. It's not too early to be thinking about fun activities for 2026.

Enjoy the Cool Texas Fall,
Larry



Save the Date!!

45th Texas Healey Roundup

April 10th – 12th, 2026

Mark your calendars to meet in Dripping Springs, Texas for the 45th Texas Healey Roundup.

45th Texas Healey Roundup



Artwork by Nic Hester

Registration and hotel information will be coming out soon!

Healey Trivia Winner

Congratulations to Julie Miller for Answering the September Trivia. She won a pair of Austin Healey ear rings.

Question: Who owned the Austin Healey 3000 featured in the TV show "Home Improvement"?

Answer: Jill Taylor, Tim "the Tool Man" Taylor's wife!

Turn to page 9 for this month's trivia question.



Tech Session at Michael Escriva's

On Saturday September 27th members of the STAHC helped Michael reinsert the engine and transmission into his bug-eye sprite.



Ron Borden, Brian Blackwell, Larry Hester

Pre-planning Phase: David Ayer, Michael Escriva, Ron Borden, Brian Blackwell



Inspection of transmission mount: Ron Borden and Brian Blackwell



Mating up engine and transmission: Larry Hester and David Ayer



Able supervising corps: Ron Borden (left) Bob Chamberlin (right)



Ta da, still fits: Larry Hester, David Ayer, Michael Escriva, Ron Borden, Bob Chamberlin, and Brian Blackwell



Final preparation: Larry Hester, Brian Blackwell and David Ayer



The support team: Pam Chamberlin, Bonnie Ayers, Melinda Hester, and Joy Escriva.

Joy served the tech crew a delicious lasagna lunch with all the Italian sides.



Highway Cleanup Report

We met on Saturday October 4th about 9:30 am along the highway west of Blanco and picked up trash. The weather was sunny and of course hot, but we were able to scour the roadside in about 90 minutes and then we were off to the Red Bud Café for lunch and conversation. This is a fun event for me, I bring my grabbers and I get a ton of steps in for the day. It is very gratifying when people drive by and honk and wave to express their appreciation to us for cleaning up the highway. Even the Redbud owners and a few customers stopped by our table to tell us Thank-you!

Thanks so much to Denene and Jeff Whitemore for coordinating this effort.



STAHC members (back row left to right): Denene Whitemore, Julie Miller, Brett Miller, Lynn McKinnie, Pat Stamp, D.J. Stamp, David Ayer, Bob Adkins, Tina Adkins, (Front row left to right): Jeff Whitemore, Larry Hester.



STAHC members from the left: Jeff Whitemore, Tina Adkins, Julie Miller, Melinda Hester, Larry Hester, Lynn Mckinnie, DJ Stamp, Pat Stamp, David Ayer, Brett Miller, Bob Adkins, Denene Whitemore.



34th Annual Texas All British Car Days

On October 10-12th, beautiful British cars gathered at the Dos Conchas Ranch in Marble Falls, Texas. There were over 75 entries. The weather was gorgeous. Several folks you will recognize were awarded trophies in the Big Healey category.



Pat Yoas (NTAHC - 1st Place), Vince Barnell (GCAHC - 3rd Place) and Larry Hester (STAHC - 2nd Place)

Note from the Newsletter Editor

You may have noticed that you did not receive an October newsletter. It was a packed month of fantastic events for the club. I combined October and November into one longer newsletter. In December, I plan to send out a longer email with announcements.

Beginning in 2026, I plan to send out the Regional Rumblin's on a quarterly basis. (February, May, August and November)

I always appreciate your feedback, suggestions, stories and pictures. Keep them coming! - Mel

South Texas 37th All British Car Day

New Braunfels, Texas was the location of this year's event on October 18th. It was held at the Rockin R River Rides on Gruene Rd. It was a beautiful Fall day. Just look at this iconic picture:



Below are the three winners in the Big Healey category. From the Left: Brett Miller's, Charlie O'Connors's, and John Berry's.



From the left: Charlie O'Connors (AHCA - 1st Place), Brett Miller (STAHC - 2nd Place) and John Berry (STAHC - 3rd Place).



Another member of the STAHC, Bob Chamberlin took 2nd place in the Morgan class with his Aero 8.

Congratulations to our club members!



A Note from Down Under

-Peter Rowland



A number of us attended the Mid America Classic in Hocking Hills, Ohio and The South Eastern Classic in Franklin, Tennessee in September. Some travelled from the northern states and we came half way round the world .

As anticipated, other members from the Texas Austin Healey clubs would not be able to attend, my daughter, Laura and I were deputized to represent the Texans! So being Australians we duly did our best Texan impersonations at every opportunity. The Texas flag shirt enabled this and was well received. All efforts were definitely on an “all care but no responsibility” basis .

We got a few laughs from the others and had a great time but now we are being asked to “pay for our crimes” by providing this written report. This is quite possible but, honestly, it’s very hard to make it anywhere near as interesting as our trip really was .



We could easily report on when we left Austin, how many days of travel, the weather, traffic conditions, where we stayed, fuel mileage, the breakdown, the repairs etc. etc., but you've heard it all before from "we left on a bright sunny morning" right through to "and a good time was had by all". Every road trip in a Healey is exciting, a fact that all we Healey owners understand and enjoy, and for some of us the longer the trip the more enjoyable. It's impossible to adequately express this in words, English American or Australian, so it's best not to try.

It's best to assume since this is for the club newsletter, describing the joy of Healey road trips would only be preaching to the converted.

However non-Healey owners keep asking "why do you do the long trips in such an old car?" *What's the attraction? What if you break down?*

The answers are many and varied depending on the individual but here are some of the reasons:

- *The challenge.* Modern cars offer the owner and driver less and less daily challenge. Imagine the excitement of a Waymo convention? They require less mental physical and emotional effort to the point of boredom.
- *And then there's the Healey with all these in spades.* It's hard to explain the enjoyment of the preparation, the breakdown and the roadside repair, but it would have to include the

mental effort of the analysis and the learning. Whenever our groups meet to tell lies about the past it's funny how the stories of the past always involve both, overcoming motoring difficulties and the fabulous roads travelled.

- *The reliving of past experiences.* Isn't it amazing how a great fast winding road in a top-down Healey can take forty years off your self-perception. The speed, the sounds and smells, the wind in what's left of your hair. Ahh... Makes you feel sorry for those just now discovering this. Naturally some recollections can be exaggerated, but often not, and always very much welcomed.
- *The joy of sharing.* The Healey experience shared with a valued passenger can be personal and quite special. This sharing can enhance the experience for both the driver and passenger. Meeting and travelling with other Healey owners is always interesting, both on the road and off as conversations and friendships with like-minded folks is inevitable.



➤ ***The individuality*** . Not all of us want to conform by driving a Tesla. Some of us aspire to having more taste? And agree with that or not, it's the individual who drives his Healey because he enjoys it and just considers it a bonus that they look so damn good together.

Anyway, surely there are more good reasons, which you are welcome to expound on at your leisure. Surely the bottom line is they all outweigh the cabin heat, sunburn, windburn, lack of weather protection and other such unimportant issues!



Healey Trivia

What's the best music video featuring a Big Healey?

Will accept name of band or song.

Healey trivia is a new section to our newsletter and we're going to make it interesting by adding a little competition! Whoever can answer the question below the fastest and forwards the answer to me at melhester@austin.rr.com will receive a Healey prize. (I have prizes for ladies and men!)

"The true beauty of a car isn't in the way that it looks, but in the way it makes you feel"

-Author unknown

Photo by [Daniel Salcius](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Calendar of Events			
Date	Event	Location	Time
February 22	Highway Cleanup and Lunch	FM1623 at McKinney Loop 2.6 miles west of Blanco	10:00 am
April 4-6	Texas Healey Roundup 44	La Grange	12:00 pm
April 19	Tech Session Pulling the Engine in a Bugeye Sprite	Escriva's	10:00 am
April 26	Highway Cleanup and Lunch	FM1623 at McKinney Loop 2.6 miles west of Blanco	10:00 am
May 3rd	Traveling Vietnam War Wall	Pioneer Park, Lady Bird Park, Fredericksburg	9:00 am
May 18 - 23	Conclave 2025 Healeys in the Ozarks	415 North State Hwy 265 Branson, Missouri 65616	4:00 pm
June 7	Electric Car Conversion Company Visit - Moment Motor Co.	7601 S. Congress Ave. Austin 78745	10:30 am
June 29	Pool Party	The Berry's for Floats and Floats	2:00 - 6:00 pm
July	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
August 9th	Jim Richmond's Garage Sale	Boerne, TX	8:00 am
August 16	National Healey Ice Cream Day & Pool Party	The Hester's Lunch & Ice Cream Served	12:00 - 4:00 pm
September 5 & 6	45th Texas Healey Roundup Planning Session	Various Dripping Springs Locations	1:00 pm
September 27th	Tech Session Reinstall the Engine and Transmission in a Bugeye Sprite	Escriva's	10:00 am
October 4	Highway Cleanup and Lunch	FM1623 at McKinney Loop 2.6 miles west of Blanco	10:00



October 25	South Texas All British Car Days	Boerne Main Square Plaza 132 S Main St. Boerne, TX	9:00 – 3:00 pm
November 4	<u>Tour of the Painted Churches</u> & <u>Lunch in Schulenburg</u>	Postponed due to All Saints Day. Churches are closed for tours	Postponed
December 7th	Annual STAHC Christmas/ Holiday Party	Forke Store 1300 Church Hill Dr. New Braunfels, TX 78130	2:00 – 5:00 pm



Mark Your Calendar

STAHC's Annual Christmas/Holiday Party is on Sunday December 7th

2:00 – 5:00 pm

at the Forke Store 13000 Church Hill Dr.

New Braunfels, TX 78130

Photo by [Jah Nomad](#) on [Unsplash](#)



SOUTH TEXAS AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB (STAHC) is an area club of the Austin-Healey Club of America (AHCA), 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:
<https://www.stahc.org/contact>

Current and past issues of *Regional Rumblin's*, as well as other information about our club, can be found at the STAHC web site at
<https://www.stahc.org/newsletters>

Ready to submit *YOUR* article to our newsletter? Let us know about your first Healey. Need tech help? Have something to sell? Need a referral for your Healey restoration. Contact me at
melhester@austin.rr.com.

Check Out these Newsletters, Websites and Events

[Austin Healey National Rally](#) in Queensland, Australia, March 9 – 13, 2026

Texas Healey Roundup 45 in Dripping Springs, TX
 April 10-12, 2026

[Pate Swap Meet](#) Texas Motor Speedway, April 23-25th, 2026

[Conclave 50 Years](#) in Galena, Ill
 September 13-18, 2026

[New Braunfels Area Car Club](#) in New Braunfels, TX
 October 24 -26, 2026

[The Austin Healey 75th Anniversary Meet](#), Lake Tahoe, CA USA, June 7-11, 2027

[North Texas Austin Healey Club](#) [Healey Trails Newsletters](#)

[Central Texas Region Antique Club of American \(ACA\)](#) Fender Talk Newsletter

[The British Sports Car Hall of Fame](#)

[Pistons on the Square](#) in Georgetown, TX
 3rd Saturday of the month from 8-10 am

