

The Flash

Atlanta Austin-Healey Club

November 2019 Volume XXXVIII, Issue 11



A couple Healeys and even more AAHC members in BJ9's joined the Ga Triumph Assn for their Pumpkin to Pig tour in the north Ga mountains. After the first two stops- pumpkin bread then apple fritters- some had little room left for BBQ!

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NEWSLETTER OF THE ATLANTA AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB

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The Flash is a publication of the AAHC, a chapter of the Austin-Healey Club of America. All material presented in the publication may be used in other clubs' publications provided *The Flash* and the author are given credit. To join the club, contact our membership chair, Sam Marble (see below).

Contributions to *The Flash* are greatly appreciated, preferably e-mailed in any standard format and labeled with the name of the article and author. You can also mail a paper copy. Pictures and photos can be any common graphic format (jpeg, tiff, pic, png, gif, pdf); please provide captions, especially people's names.

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Don't see your name here & it should be? Send a note to the editor: atlhealeflash@gmail.com



2019 Events

(See AAHC [Website](#) for details
and for previous events)

November 2019

- 2 [Pumpkins to Pig Tour](#) – N Georgia Mtns, GA Triumph Assn (p 8)
- 2 [2nd Annual – Cool Cars & Cops Car Show](#) – Powder Springs, GA
- 9 Wine-ing Roads Tour & Tasting

December

- 7 11th Annual Bob Kassow Memorial Kruise – N Georgia Mtns (p 4)
- 28 Polar Bear Run – GA Triumph Assn (details coming)

January 2020

- 18 Annual AAHC Planning Meeting (venue and details coming)



Just For Fun . . .

Every Tuesday Morning 7:30-8am for breakfast -ROMEO (retired old men eating out) - Marietta Diner on Cobb Parkway (Route 41) Marietta, GA about 120 guys show up each week driving some very beautiful cars in the back parking lot—some British cars but need more! <https://sites.google.com/site/romeoclubofmariettaga/>

Every Saturday Morning - Donuts & Derelicts at Dandy Donuts in Chamblee 8:30-11:00am Atlanta's longest running free car show: www.panteraplace.com

First Sunday of the Month, Caffeine & Octane, 8-11am at Perimeter Mall, NE corner of lot. Some cars arrive at 7 to get primo spots. In nice weather, 2500 cars, 10,000 folks at 8:00am! www.caffeineandoctane.com

Every 3rd Sunday—breakfast—Gwinnett Horsepower Breakfast: www.southeastwheelevents.com

NE Georgia Swap Meet, Atlanta Dragway, Commerce, GA Vendor set-up 7am, public 8:00-1:30, 1st Saturday of each month except 2nd Sat. for May, Aug. \$20 vendors, \$6 spectators, kids free, More info: <http://negeorgiaswapmeet.com/>

**Monthly BLD meetings are usually held on the first Saturday of each month
(except December and January)
led by a club member, at Breakfast, Lunch, or Dinner (thus BLD!)**



There is no December BLD scheduled, **so go on the Kassow Kruise instead!**
The next club meeting is the planning BLD January 12



11th Annual Bob Kassow Memorial Kruise

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Leaving promptly at 10 am (approx. 2- 1/2 hour drive)

Meet at:

Harbor Freight / Publix Shopping Center

4290 Bells Ferry Road

Kennesaw, GA 30144

(Shopping center is off I-575, Exit 4)

Drive to North Georgia Mountains with buffet lunch (pay your own) at

Amicalola Falls State Park and Lodge, Dawsonville, GA

It's hard to believe Bob passed away thirteen years ago, on December 2nd. Our 11th Annual Memorial Kruise (missed last year due to weather) will be a wonderful day of fond memories, friendships and the joy of driving the back roads of Georgia.

Last minute info, contact Bill Nagel at Cell: 404-319-1104
e-mail: bhnagel@gmail.com

Doug Duffee
Atlanta Austin-Healey Club Fearless Leader



Presidential
Ponderings

Santa Doug is having some Elf-issues, something about their demands for better body shop conditions or something. (See #AllElvesMatter for details.) So I am filling in for this month's Fearless Leader column in hopes to remain on that "Nice" list.

Hard to believe November is done and December is upon us. I hope your Thanksgiving holiday was full of friends and family and food and thankfulness.

We had a nice slate of events in November, both official AAHC and others. We started the month with an invitation from the Georgia Triumph Association to join their annual Pumpkins to Pig Tour, following a nice mix of roads to Burt's Farm and lunch at Poole's BBQ, with a stop at an apple house along the way. Your AAHC's official BLD was hosted by Abe & Susan Cheij, the Wine-ing Roads Tour and Tastings, on the 9th. Nice route, good wine, food and fellowship too. A fun time was had by all.

November wasn't all fun and games. The 16th found several folks in a planning meeting for hosting next year's SEC XXXIV event. Happy to report things are coming along nicely. We have the dates set, a venue booked, and the schedule is sketched out. Watch for more details at your January BLD & Planning meeting, to be held on Saturday the 18th at a special location to be announced soon. You'll like it.

Speaking of the January session, please give thought to what events you would like to see in 2020. And consider stepping up to host something. It's really not hard nor scary to do. So think about hosting or co-hosting an event. A drive, a Tech Session to get something looked at or to show

something you have figured out, or a visit to someplace interesting. It doesn't have to be elaborate, more it's a chance to get together with friends. And you can get help just by asking.

Looking forward to December, the month starts and ends with opportunities to blow the cobwebs out of your exhaust pipes. On Saturday the 7th is the 12th annual Kassow Kruse Memorial drive, hosted by Bill Nagel and his award winning, calendar gracing, Sprite. And on the other end of December, on the 28th, is the 20th annual Polar Bear run, hosted by the Georgia Triumph Association. I have joined both these drives in the past and they are a lot of fun.

Another important item this month, it is time to **renew your membership**. Please, if you have not already done so, fill out a membership form, p. 7, (to be sure your correct information is in the directory) and mail your check to Sam & Cyndi Marble; their address is on the form. And, moving into the new millennium, you can now renew your membership online through the national club's website, at healeyclub.org.

In between the 7th and the 28th you may find you are just itching to get out for a little ride, or maybe just an impromptu lunch, maybe to take a break from all the holiday craziness. If so, consider reaching out to folks in your area. As our fearless President often says, a burger always tastes better with Healey folks around.

The month was not all sunshine. In case you have not heard, your AAHC lost two of our long-term members in November. Kathryn Blanks passed away on November 13th and Walter Duffee's wife Barbara passed away on the 27th. Please keep the Blanks and the Duffees in your hearts and prayers.

Last, let me wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Cheers,

Ric Anderson

AAHC VP of Fun Stuff

Rick's Recap

This month's BLD was another tour into the GA mountains, but this time with visits to nearby wineries, hosted by Abe and Susan Cheij. Story coming next month.

Ric Anderson and Pumpkins to Pigs: A fun and educational event, thanks to the Ga Triumph Assn for hosting! Ric A's storytelling comes through again. (p. 8) I enjoyed the pumpkins so much I got way delayed, but did go home with a "gremlin gourd".

Barry's Tech Corner Barry tosses out a ton of caution about bad repair advice posted online. (p 10) Read and learn! It also holds for advice from other car nuts, even Healey club members. My own experience: Leaky lever shocks? Put in STP and it won't leak so fast. I was in Seattle at the time and STP worked great till winter and the first "polar bear" type of tour. By the time I got home, one shock mount had ripped itself part way off the frame- the STP was a solid! I then learned about heliarc welding

Grandson Zach is a proud new Healey owner!! Thomas the Tank Engine just has to wait.

Membership name tags- The first one from AHCA is **free to members**. Send email request to: Mike Schneider, AHCA Membership Director, at membership@healeyclub.org

along with your name, member number, year joining AHCA, and address where the name tag is to be sent.

The Flash is about you. We all like Healey stories. Send in something about what you are working on or where you met your Healey (or vice-versa). Send your history text and pics to Judy Bagheri, and all other stories to me.

Google Groups- Instructions: To send to the entire club, send your email to:

AAHC-members@googlegroups.com



you are one ug-ly pumpkin!



Atlanta Austin-Healey Club

(a Chapter of the Austin-Healey Club of America, Inc. since 1981)

Membership Application

Complete the information below. Return with your check for \$60.00 (\$50.00 AHCA, \$10.00 Atlanta Chapter) made payable to: Atlanta Austin-Healey Club.

Send to:

Sam & Cyndi Marble
Atlanta AHCA Membership
2421 Manor Way
Loganville, GA 30052

Membership Benefits: Monthly National Magazine, Monthly Atlanta Newsletter, Meetings, Tech Sessions, Huge Wealth of Healey Knowledge, Drives, Socials, Weekend Trips, Car Shows, Cookouts, Fun & Much More!

Healey Information (Healey Ownership Not Required)

Model _____ VIN _____ Original Owner? (y/n) _____

Model _____ VIN _____ Original Owner? (y/n) _____

Personal Information

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Questions? Contact us at 404.538.9611 or email at samncyna@att.net

GTA's Pumpkins to Pig Tour



The fine folks at the Georgia Triumph Association invited your AAHC to join them on their annual Pumpkins to Pig Tour. Described as a

"celebration of all things fall" combined with a great drive through the county, the event lived up to its billing.

The morning was a little cool and foggy when we met up at a Waffle House in Marietta for a little pre-drive socializing and catching up. We enjoyed a nice mix of cars including Alfas, BMWs, Healeys, Jaguar, Minis, Miatas, and, of course a good selection of Triumphs too. After a quick



drivers' meeting thirteen (or fourteen?) cars headed out for our first stop, Burt's Pumpkin Farm outside of Dawsonville. The fog burned off as we enjoyed our route through Canton, Tate, Big Canoe and Marble Hill and we were blessed with a beautiful and bright blue sky.

If you have not visited Burt's it will be hard to believe how many types of pumpkins they have. All kinds and shapes and sizes, and they tell you which are edible- important for us city folks. There's shopping too, plus baked goods and hay



rides. A fun place to visit. We also picked up another car or two while we were there.

Circling up the wagons, we headed off to our next stop, the BJ Reece Apple House near Ellijay. While not a long drive, the road traveled along Amicalola Falls State Park and part of the Chattahoochee National Forest and had a few twists to enhance the scenery.

The BJ Reece Apple House has just about as many kinds of apples as Burt's had pumpkins. If



you are in need of an apple and can't find one there you are just not trying. There were also other things to tempt you into spoiling your lunch. Like still warm apple fritters and fried pies (at least eight or more kinds!) and ice cream too.

Pumpkins to Pig (cont.)

Our visit to the apple house provided a little parking lot car show, as we drew a few folks with cameras and questions about the cars. And we do enjoy talking about our cars, don't we?

After we stowed our purchases we caravanned toward our last stop of the tour, for lunch at



Poole's BBQ in East Ellijay. You would think 20 or so people showing up all at once would cause a snag in the service. But it didn't, the folks at Poole's seemed to be expecting us. Orders were taken smoothly and the food was served quickly. And pretty tasty it was.

After a leisurely lunch, people began to melt away as they headed for home. Some took the quicker,



expressway routes, while others opted for a scenic path to enjoy the beautiful afternoon and fall colors a little longer. A special thanks to Glenn Stephens for leading a small AAHC contingent on one of those latter routes.

If you missed this drive be sure you make it next time. And thanks to the crew at the GTA for having us along.

-Ric Anderson

Thanks to Ric Anderson and Rick Hertzberg for photos

Tech Corner by Barry Rosenberg

Tech article: November 2019

This month will be a short article. I forgot to write one until reminded. Let this be more about warnings on what you read from the internet and Facebook and all the forums. Do not take their advice unless you personally know the writer. Today, I read a post on Facebook about someone who bought an 1800 MGB "rebuilt" engine from Ebay and put it in his MGA.

First, never buy a "rebuilt" engine or anything from Ebay unless the builder is an established business and then still be very leery of what you will get. Read all the reviews of the builder you can find before making the purchase. Ask for references, don't be shy. It is your money that could be going down the drain. Before installing the engine, or any rebuilt part you have purchased, check it out. Look inside if you can. On a transmission, open the top or inspection cover.

Does it look rebuilt? Are the internal parts new? New Triumph synchros should be a shiny brass color. Dull brass is used most likely. Are the gears pitted; then it was rusty. You can tell a good rebuild and if not, ask someone who knows to take a quick look. Back to the engine.

So the purchaser installs the engine in his MGA and it does not turn over fast enough to crank. He tries a new battery, a new starter, cleans contacts and the ground location and still it will not start. He asks Facebook experts why. The replies are stupid and dangerous to the engine, if it was a good rebuild.

One suggested he try to use the hand crank thru the hole in the bumper except the MGB engine he said he bought does not have the crank nut for that. Another tells him to pull the car behind another car and pop the clutch to jump start it. Never ever do this.

My suggestion, and I know mine is correct because I have 45 years experience, was to pull the plugs and try to turn it over with the starter until oil pressure shows on the gauge. If, after a few minutes, still no pressure, pull the pressure line from the block and see if any oil dribbles out. Still none, pull the filter and see if there is oil in it. Still no oil, then you have

a serious problem that will require pulling the engine back out.

If you get oil pressure, then pull the valve cover and get the engine to TDC #1 cylinder firing by watching the intake valve open and close: the next time the pointer is at TDC, that is #1 firing. The #1 valves should be rocking and have about equal play. If not, then the cam timing could be out.

If the engine turns very slow and it's hard to turn by hand with the plugs out, there may be an internal problem such as a rod cap on backwards, incorrect bearing on one journal, rings not gapped; anyway, you will be pulling the engine and looking into it. Have someone who knows what they are doing fix it.

I see the same in the forums- people answering questions with incorrect (I was going to say hair brained) answers. Just because you have trouble getting your TR6 to run smoothly, never put two downdraft Webers on it, NEVER. The Strombergs are fine for that engine up to a strong performance build.

Roller rockers are never needed on a street engine. Shaving the head and block are not needed for a street engine. Yet these are constantly recommended on the internet. I always respond to build for how you will drive. Never put a high performance cam in a street car especially if you do not raise the compression a good bit. It will run like crap.

The same goes for brakes and suspensions. A lot of the suggestions are from people either with egos who have done it or those who do not understand the detriment it can do to your enjoyment of your car. Sure, drilled and slotted brake rotors look cool. But, did you know, street rotors can crack around the drilled holes? Especially if you have been driving and the rotors are hot and you hit a water puddle. The cool water can start minute cracks around the holes.

Take a magnifying glass and look at your rotor around the holes every 6 months or so. When you see cracks, replace them with solid rotors, forget the ego thing. Egos can cost you a lot of wasted money.

Tech Corner (cont.)

I do not want you to think everyone posting is an idiot, but the majority seem to be. Be careful of the advice you take and the parts you buy. Dealing locally with reputable people will be much better in the long haul. You can always call me for advice and I am sure most other shops feel the same way. Ok, that is enough standing on my soap box today.

I am planning a tune up tech session with the Ga. Triumph Assoc. in the spring. Watch for updates and

y'all come learn how to tune your car. No charge and free food. What more can you ask for? See y'all somewhere soon.

Barry Rosenberg

barry@britishcarservicega.com

britcars@bellsouth.net

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Reminder for Club Members: Anyone have any British cars or parts- for sale or any items wanted? Pass on the info & we'll get it listed. Advertisement is **free** to members. Your ad will run for three months unless you pull it or ask for renewal.

WANTED

Parts Needed

Working on (2) projects and am looking for the following parts:

Short term project: Building a MK1, 1962 MG (GAN2 VIN prefix). I need a:

(buildable condition) **1098 Engine.** I'd like to keep it "Year and Make" accurate if I can, but a 1275 engine would work also.

Tach and Speedo for MK1, 1962 MG

I purchased the car with no engine transmission, Tach or Speedo, but otherwise complete and with only 2 rust through spots (on bottom of each front wing in the usual place).

Longer term project: Building a Bugeye from tub up (currently on a rotisserie to replace floor pan and spring boxes). If you have any BE parts (interior or exterior) you're not using / would part with - send me a list please!

Thanks All !

Lee Etterling

Betterling01@gmail.com

678.630.5013

WANTED

Hi Club Members- Am working on my 100/4 project and am in need of a flywheel for my motor. Please advise if you have to spare or where I might locate one. Thanks!

Regards, markhenderson3376@gmail.com

WANTED, or FOR SALE

Reminder for Club Members: Anyone have any British cars or parts- for sale or any items wanted? Pass on the info & we'll get it listed. Advertisement is **free** to members. Your ad will run for three months unless you pull it or ask for renewal.

FOR SALE: 1999 Jaguar XK8

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 Concours Condition

\$16,500 OBO

Any questions, please call:
 Roger Futrell, AKA Sparkie
 770-535-1510 (Home)
 678-943-9796 (Cell)



> > > Please contact the Editor when your Sale or Wanted item is done. < < <

WANTED, or FOR SALE

Reminder for Club Members: Anyone have any British cars or parts- for sale or any items wanted? Pass on the info & we'll get it listed. Advertisement is **free** to members. Your ad will run for three months unless you pull it or ask for renewal.

FOR SALE

A-H 3000, 1961

I have a beautiful 1961 3000 that I am thinking about passing on to a new owner...if anyone knows of someone who would love to have such a fabulous car or if any of you want to add to your collection please let me know!

Thanks so much!

William Monroe williamlmonroe@yahoo.com



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