



Proud chapter of the
Austin-Healey Club of
America since 1979.



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Side Curtain News

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MAY 2019

Gateway Healey Association St. Louis, MO

Rumblings

I have been very busy lately so I am writing this on the fly so to speak. The calendar is full for a lively car season, if the rain ever stops. I don't have much to write so I am postponing the rebuild article for a month.

Notable is that I am finding moments here and there to work on my Healey project. Below are a few pictures of the progress. Steering is in, dash is in and wiring is complete. The Marshall amp vinyl really does look like the original dash material. I am "rebuilding" the original steering wheel. I know most people put the "Moto-Lita" style wheels in and I am tempted. Maybe someday, but for now, I think I will go stock with a good leather wrap.



Front suspension with steering is in!



It might work.



Dash is installed and wired

I am trying to wrap up the details of the chassis but I keep noticing things that need to be installed. Things like the package tray and fresh air vent controls. Or doing things like mounting the heater control in the brand new faceplate upside down and rapidly breaking the faceplate. Not expensive to replace but annoying enough. Surprisingly enough I have had trouble finding suitable silver paint for the wheels. I will let you all know if I found a good silver paint. I want to mount the wheels and drop the chassis on its tires. Probably shouldn't leave them there but it will just feel good to get it back on its tires for the first time in 8 years.

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Don't forget to go to the club website!

<http://clubs.hemmings.com/gatewayhealey/>

The website includes additional articles, links to videos, maintenance tips, and copies of GHA SCN.

Members and Guests at the February meeting

Sean Dowell Dennis Dowell Dave Massey Bob McElwee
Keith Bester Bandit Jim Reiter

Meeting Minutes (Jim Reiter)

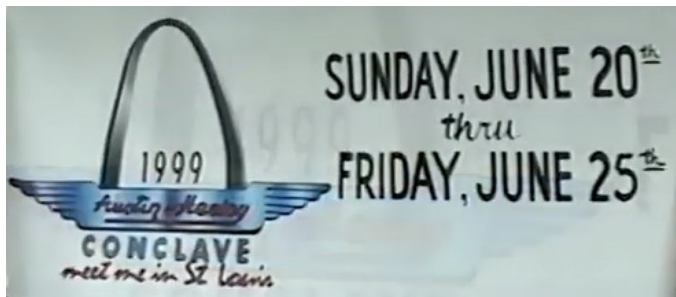
Dave Massey reported that WestPort Cars and Coffee had so many cars that by 8:30 the upper lot was full and about half the lower lot was filled. Many, many cars. Beautiful day and it was probably the first time many folks drove their cars.

Easter Car Show in Forest Park also had many cars. Car must be 25 years old to enter. That takes you all the way back to 1994. If I had a 1994 car I would think I was rich. My daily driver is a 1974 BMW 2002. The Street Rod show in Forest Park was also packed. Warm, sunny days are wonderful.

The Gateway Healey Tuneup/Cleanup was also well attended. I took several pictures of both the Cars and Coffee and Tuneup/Cleanup and forwarded to you.

Sean reported on all the may car show and driving event coming up. There are a couple almost every weekend.

1999 Austin Healey Club of America—Conclave St. Louis



2019 is the 20th anniversary of the 1999 AHCA Conclave held in St. Louis

Jim Reiter has uploaded to YouTube a video compiled by Mark Silverman of the event

The video is accessible via the GHA Website through <http://clubs.hemmings.com/gatewayhealey/>



18th ANNUAL BRITS in the OZARKS

ALL BRITISH CAR & CYCLE SHOW

September 5 - 7

Thursday, Sept 5
Driving Tour

Friday, Sept 6
Driving Tour
Parking Lot Party

Saturday, Sept 7
Car Show
Banquet

SPECIAL GUEST

David Hobbs

Champion Racer, TV Personality, and Author

Car Display • People's Choice Judging • Concessions Available

Host Hotel

Holiday Inn Convention Center of Northwest Arkansas
I-49 and Highway 412, Springdale, AR

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Conclave 2019 HEALEY IN THE HILLS!

The Minnesota AHC has big plans in store for 2019 Conclave location. The hills of South Dakota await you and your Healey. Take a look at the important updates

Join us September 6-11, 2019 for HEALEY IN THE HILLS!

We have exciting updates to the Conclave 2019 Schedule and Lodging Options. The three original hotels are sold out, but two new hotels have rooms available at Conclave discounted rates. Be sure to identify yourself as part of Austin-Healey Conclave 2019 to verify you are eligible for contracted room rate discounts.

CONCLAVE REGALIA SALES OPEN!

If you have registered for Conclave, you will be receiving an e-mail from Conclave Registrars Greg and Suzanne Willodson that will give you access to your original registration summary, which now contains the Regalia Order form and payment instructions for purchasing online.

Or, you can print the order form by clicking the "Regalia" tab on our website and mail it the completed form with your check for the total amount of purchases as directed at the bottom of that Regalia order form.

For more information go to <http://www.healeyclub.org/conclave>

**CARS
COFFEE**



2019 SEASON



St. Louis, Mo.

Every 3rd Saturday of the Month April through October from 8 am - 11 am

April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July 20th, August 17th, September 21st, and October 19th

WESTPORT PLAZA, I-270 & Page Blvd, South lot, between STARBUCKS and McDonalds.

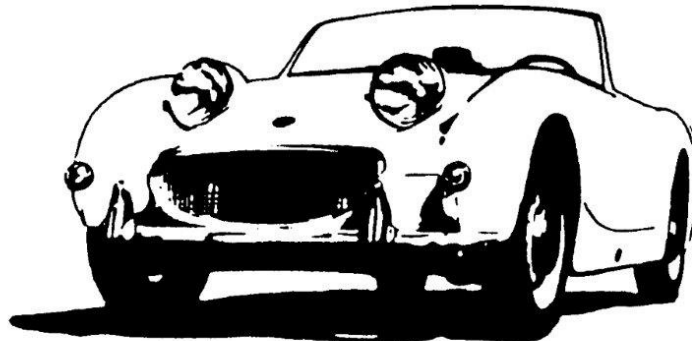
Cars Coffee is a free gathering in the St. Louis metro area open to all vehicle makes / marques and enthusiasts. This is not a car show and there is no entrance fee. Bring your car out and enjoy a drive in light morning traffic. Get together with other like-minded people to talk about cars and enjoy a morning brew. Conveniently located next to Starbucks, or bring your choice of morning beverage.

Location: Westport Plaza South lot, between STARBUCKS and McDonalds. I-270 & Page Blvd.



Don't forget to visit the Gateway Healey Association Web-Site at
<http://clubs.hemmings.com/gatewayhealey/index.htm>

April
**CARS
COFFEE**
St. Louis, Mo.



2019 GHA Annual Wash-Up, Tune-Up



Despite prior opposition, new Arkansas law increases antique vehicle cutoff from 25 to 45 years

[Daniel Strohl](#) on Mar 20th, 2019

In an effort to prevent abuse of the state's antique vehicle registration system, lawmakers in Arkansas have limited the eligibility of vehicles to those 45 years and older, despite a public outcry that killed a nearly identical piece of legislation two years ago.

When State Representative Jack Fortner introduced [H.B. 1547](#) in the Arkansas state legislature in 2017, he said the bill's purpose wasn't necessarily to increase revenues for the state, rather to do away with the state's 25-year rolling cutoff for vehicles eligible for antique plates.

Ostensibly, Fortner introduced the bill to clamp down on Arkansas residents using the bill to cheaply register their older daily drivers. Rather than an annual fee, the Arkansas antique vehicle registration system, implemented in 1957, imposes a one-time \$7 charge for the antique plates.

"Our understanding is that the bill's sponsor felt that this was being abused by drivers hoping to avoid paying annual registration fees," said Christian Robinson, the Specialty Equipment Market Association's director of state government affairs.

However, since 2006, existing state law required that anybody registering an antique vehicle with the state to also register one or more vehicles for regular transportation. Rather, Fortner, a collector himself, made clear in local media interviews at the time that his actual purpose in proposing the 45-year cutoff was to impose his personal outlook on collector cars on Arkansas law.

"There are some special interest cars from the '90s, but there are no historic cars from the '90s," he [told Little Rock television station KATV](#). In his testimony to [the Arkansas legislature](#): "I don't think anything good happened in the auto field after '72."

Fortner did not return a call requesting comment for this story.

Three days after introducing H.B. 1547, Fortner [withdrew it](#), citing opposition from Arkansas car collectors. "Regardless of my personal feelings, I must go with the will of the people," he said at the time.

Last month, however, Fortner introduced [H.B. 1496](#), a bill with only minor revisions from H.B. 1547. The new bill still pushed back the antique car registration cutoff to 45 years, though it did insert the requirement that owners of cars with antique plates furnish proof of insurance coverage to the state's Department of Finance and Administration on an annual basis and proof of ownership and registration of one or more daily drivers when applying for the antique plate.

Both bills included provisions grandfathering all existing owners of cars with antique plates.

While H.B. 1496 initially failed in the state senate last month, the chamber later expunged that vote and passed the bill, paving the way for it to be signed into law — as Act 368 — earlier this month. Thus any vehicle built between 1974 and 1994 is no longer eligible for antique plates in Arkansas. According to numbers that Fortner quoted in 2017, as many as 45 percent of the state's antique-plated vehicles lie within that 25- to 45-year date range.

"Unfortunately, such modern classic vehicles as the 1981 De Lorean DMC-12, 1994 Toyota Supra, 1985 Chevrolet Camaro IROC-Z, 1991 Acura NSX, and 1991 Dodge Viper... no longer meet the criteria required to be considered an historic vehicle," Robinson said.

According to Robinson, SEMA's model legislation for such recognition defines classics, antiques, and special interest vehicles as those 25 years old and older.

While a number of states have made antique vehicle registration less restrictive in recent years — this year alone, [Missouri](#), [Maine](#), [Indiana](#), [West Virginia](#), and [Tennessee](#) have all introduced legislation intended to provided some relief for owners of older cars — Fortner's stands out as one of the few recent bills aimed at making it more restrictive. Also in 2017, Connecticut attempted to shift the definition of antique car [from 20 years or older to 30 years or older](#), though that provision was later scrapped. And in 2015, according to Robinson, Nevada's legislature attempted to restrict its classic vehicle registration program, though the state's governor vetoed the legislation.

According to a SEMA notification, the SEMA Action Network [intends to push for a repeal of Act 368](#) in the state's net legislative session.



CLAUDIA SANDERS DINNER HOUSE



Each year, SpringThing organizers seek out the best VIP experiences in the Commonwealth to entertain our guests. This year is no exception! The Claudia Sanders Dinner House has been pleasing the palettes of visitors since 1959 when Colonel Harland Sanders and his wife, Claudia, moved from southeastern Kentucky to Shelbyville the famed location. The one hundred twenty-five-year-old dwelling, Blackwood Hall, which is adjacent to the Dinner House, served as the Sanders' residence and the base of operation for Kentucky Fried Chicken after their move here. Later, a larger building was added and became what we know today as the Dinner House.

This Kentucky classic will serve as our banquet location on Saturday night. SpringThing guests will be treated to a full country-style buffet of the greatest creation from Colonel Sanders' secret recipes. The buffet includes fried chicken, roast beef, country vegetables and homemade cobblers. This feast will surely satisfy the hungry Healey traveler after a relaxing day touring nearby wineries, distilleries and historic sites.

Join us for SpringThing 2019 and see what all the fuss is about!



May 16-19, 2019
BluegrassClub.com

- 18 May** **Cars and Coffee*, Westport Plaza I-270 & Page Blvd.** 8 to 11 AM
- 18 May** **50th Anniversary of Backstoppers "Backstopalooza" Car Show**, At Premium Outlet in Chesterfield, next to the old Rombach's Pumpkin Farm. Registration at 10:30 AM, pre-registration \$20, day of \$25. Awards at 4 PM. <https://backstoppers.org/events/backstopalooza-car-show/>.
- 25 May** **JAGSL Garage Tour & Driving Event: Horses, Horses and More Horses!** RSVP to Kelly Waite at kellywaite@att.net. Monitor www.jagstl.com and the online *Growl*.
- 25 May** **Caffeine & Chrome**, at Gateway Classic Cars, 1237 Central Park Dr, O'Fallon, IL, 8:30 AM-Noon. Complementary coffee, donuts and self tours of the showroom. For info, call (618)271-3000.
- 28 May** **GHA monthly meeting** at Keith Bester's garage. 7 PM, 115 N Sappington Rd, Kirkwood, MO 314-821-2372
- 1 Jun** **Cars & Coffee West/Sunrise Church**, 7116 Twin Chimneys Blvd, O'Fallon, MO, 8 AM-10 AM. Info at <https://calendar.time.ly/xzi1q8ed/posterboard>.
- 2 Jun** Annual **St Louis European Auto Show**, at the Chesterfield Outlet Mall, 17057 N Outer 40 Rd. Info at <http://stleuropeanautoshow.com>.
- 7 Jun** **Memories Car Club Cruise at Faith Church**, aka "The Zoo," first Friday of each month. Rahning Rd off MO 30/Gravois, 4 PM-9 PM, all vehicles '79 or older are welcome.
- 7 Jun** **Kirkwood Sonic Car Cruise**, at Big Bend and S Kirkwood, every Friday night through the end of September. Tends toward muscle cars and rods but foreign vehicles are welcome!
- 8 Jun** **Cars & Coffee/Fast Lane Classic Cars**, 427 Little Hills Industrial Blvd, St Charles. Hosted by Fast Lane, C&C St Louis, the Bridge Coffee House and the Dokaj Foundation, 8 AM-10 AM. Info at <https://calendar.time.ly/xzi1q8ed/posterboard>.
- 8 Jun** **7th Annual MDA Make a Muscle Charity Car & Bike Show**, All makes welcome, registration starts at 8 AM. For more info, call up www.mdacarandbikeshow.com.
- 9 Jun** **St Louis Region SCCA autocross #2**, Family Arena, St Charles. Registration 7 to 8:15 AM, \$40 for SCCA members, \$40 plus \$15 weekend membership for non-members. Info at www.stlsolo.org.
- 14 Jun** **Misfit Toyz Car, Truck & Bike Cruise**, 2nd Friday each month, April through October, 6-10 PM. At Hardees, 2580 Lemay Ferry Rd, St Louis.
- 15 Jun** **Cars & Coffee/Westport**, 8 AM-11 AM.
- 15 Jun** **Hazelwood Baptist Church Annual Car Show & Festival**, 10 AM-4 PM, 6161 Howdershell Rd, Hazelwood. Registration and other info at www.hazelwoodbaptist.com or call (314)731-2244, on-site sign-in from 8 AM to 1 PM.
- 16 Jun** **Annual Father's Day Car Show**, at the Museum of Transportation, 11 AM-2 PM.
- 23 Jun** **BSCC autocross #3**, Family Arena, St Charles, show about 9:30 AM. To get on the event mailing list or for additional, contact Racer Steve at sshab@yahoo.com.
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For more information see the St. Louis Sports Car Council Gateway Relay at www.stlsc.org