

# Side Curtain News

VOLUME 41, ISSUE 1

**Feb 2020** 

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



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#### **Gateway Healey Association** St. Louis, MO

#### Rumblings

It is 2020, Happy New Year! Keith just told me just prior to writing this that the engine may be ready this week. It is cold

anyway but as soon as I get it I will heat up the garage and get to work putting it

like rebuilding the carbs with Keith, getting the headlight buckets ready



and cleaning up the directional signal lamp holders. I also made a punch-list of electrical things I want to check out before installing the battery. This "ring -out" of all of the circuits will just verify

that I didn't miss anything and prevent me from burning up the brand new wiring harness I installed. Could it be that I will have a "rolling chassis" by spring? Maybe.

One thing I did was buy LED lamps for the car. So far I am not real happy with my choices. I did not go the Moss route and went out on my own to "save money". I will tell you that even though the Hellas I bought work great with the halogen H4 bulbs (nice cutoff and good illumination)

Keith and I working on the Carbs & the finished product

the LED lamps I bought did not illuminate the same way and were "muddy" at best. Looking at the two bulbs it was clear why the LEDs did



Headlights looking pretty

not work. Just a word of caution, just because it says H4 does not mean it will work with the bulb fixture. Same goes with the LED running lights. Break and parking lights may not be different enough in brightness. I am learning a lot.

Phil Ellerbrock, GHA SCN Editor



GHA Meeting: 4th Tuesday of the Month, 7 PM at Keith Bester's 115 N Sappington Road, Kirkwood MO 314-821-2372



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

The Punch List

all together. I have done a few things

#### **Gateway's Officers**

#### **President**

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#### Newsletter Editor

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#### **GHA Webmaster**

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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.

#### No December Meeting but a Christmas Party (see pics)

#### Members and Guests at the January meeting

Sean Dowell Dennis Dowell Richard Etz Phil Ellerbrock Jim Reiter-Lou Salini Ron Varley Dave Massey Keith Bester

#### January Meeting Minutes-Ron Varley

Minutes of November meeting were approved.

No treasurer's report.

Membership report - renewals for 2020 received so far: National/local - 27, Local only - 6

Old business - None

New business - None

General - Valentine Party @ T. J. Muggs Feb. 9 @ 6:00 pm

Robert Pass closing his business and is renting space

in his building for car storage for \$150/mo. per vehicle.

He can be reached at (314) 330-0877.

#### Events calendar in the St. Louis Sports Car Council Gateway Relay atwww.stlscc.org

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Hosted by the Tampa Bay Austin-Healey Club May 17-21, 2020

State ..

On-line credit card or Pay Pal registrations are required. No mail-in registrations or checks accepted. Registration required to obtain password for special hotel group rates and reservation phone number.

### Register today at <u>http://tbahc.com</u>

Registration \$145 through February 28, 2020. All registrations \$165 after February 28, 2020. All fees are U.S. Dollars. Registration includes one vehicle, two adults, one child under 15 and one free baseball cap. No refunds after March 1, 2020.



Florida Green Healeys (and combinations) will be celebrated at Conclave. Join us and share your car!





Gateway Healey Valentines Day Dinner



Sunday February 9th @ 6 PM

CJ Muggs—Webster Groves, 101 W Lockwood Please contact Marilyn Salini if you plan to attend By Email: Msalini73@gmail.com, by text or phone @ 314-277-1778

Wear something RED

Each person can order from the menu, separate checks





Jim Reiter out on a beautiful spring like January day

## Christmas Party © Keith Bester's House December 14th 2019



#### Miscellaneous Ramblings By Richard Etz

Well, there certainly has been lots of car related news for the usually slow month of January. I hope that some of our readers attended the St. Louis Car Show, for instance. It took place from January 23 to 26. This featured the latest and most expensive versions of popular models, which generally don't excite like the high style sculptures of yesteryear. Gone are the days of concept cars and dancers to hype the show. The truck and suv dominated show had a few spots of interest for the car enthusiast, however. The Challenger Hellcat and 392 hemi models were apparently unchanged and rather cool. No test drives for the Challenger this year, though. Word must have gotten around about my last year's test drive! The Camaro continued to have the poorest visibility in the industry, with tank-like slits passing for windows. A six-speed manual, v8 Mustang caught my eye. A mid-level GT model in black, it listed for only \$46K! The new Corvette was a sensation, in terms of crowds and interest. As most of you already know, the new Vette is now mid-engined and the first year of production is reportedly sold out. At \$58K base, it appeared to be a relative bargain next to the exotic Acura NSX, with a list price roughly three times as much. The Horseless Carriage Club display held the most interest for me. That does kind of date me, when you think about it—horseless carriages! A 1903 A.L. Dyke kit car was the oldest model and a St. Louis margue to boot. An early '20s Mercer roadster is one we have seen at the Easter show, but worth another look. A huge Marmon touring car was arguably the star of the show. A 1947 Lincoln was beautifully restored and guite handsome. Newer cars included two gullwings: a DeLorean and a Bricklin. I learned that a fellow in south county specializes in the restoration of the Bricklin, amazing! The Bricklin was built in Canada by Malcolm Bricklin in 1974 and 1975. it was touted as a safety car, with ten mile per hour bumpers and roll cage construction. A two-seater with hydraulic door lifts and a plastic body skin, it challenged the Corvette of the time. About 3,000 were produced. Malcolm Bricklin went on to become a major importer of such triumphs as the Yugo and the Pinfarinia Azuria (Fiat 124 Spider). I met an older couple who had a Studebaker Avanti on display. This past summer they submitted a low bid while at a Studebaker rally. They were surprised to win the apparently one-owner car. It was the supercharged R2 model in that familiar Studebaker turquoise color—a real beauty! The Avanti's new owners reported that the Avanti Owner's Club International (AOCI) will be having their national show in St. Louis in September! This will include the 1962-64 Studebaker Avanti, the Chevrolet-powered Avanti II, and the later Firebird and Mustang based variants. As you may recall, a recent Studebaker national was held here. Other areas of interest included vintage race cars, a 1963 Ferrari (supposedly one of Enzo's personal cars), Porsche and Corvette club displays, and the Million Dollar Mile.

In other car news, one of the Mustangs from the Steve McQueen movie Bullit was auctioned off by Mecum on January 10<sup>th</sup>. A green 1968 fastback, it was one of two Mustangs known to have been used in the movie. The story goes that it was sold to a studio employee who used it as a daily driver. It was then sold to a New Jersey policeman, who then sold it in 1974 for \$3,500 to a family man. His wife used it to transport their children and run to the grocery store. The clutch broke in 1980 and it was parked until recently. The son of this owner brought it back to running condition and submitted it to the auction. The rather rough looking car brought a bid of \$3.4 million, or \$3.7 million with buyer's premium! An old letter from Steve McQueen was included. He had offered to buy the car and replace it with a similar model. The other Mustang used in the movie, the stunt car, recently turned up in a junkyard in Mexico, now a rusted shell. It is currently being restored in California.

We were all shocked to hear of the tragic murder of an Edwardsville attorney, Randy Gori. It turns out that he was a great car collector, possessing 20 Ferraris in addition to other makes. He and one of his cars recently appeared on Motorweek. I believe I recognized some of his cars from shows at Kemp Museum and The European Show. Maybe some of our members knew him. Our condolences go out to the friends and family.

As I contemplate record temperatures, I hope you get out and enjoy (run, repair, drive) your cars! Happy motoring!

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## JANUARY 23-26, 2020 **2020 STL** AUTO SHOW

Photos by Richard Etz







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### **Route 66 National Historic Trail update**



Photo by Thomas Hawk.

\* Route 66 backers have been pinning their hopes for continued preservation funding for the decommissioned highway on National Historic Trail status, and while delays have caused legislation calling for that status to languish, Ron Warnick at *Route 66 News* <u>notes that it's still in the works</u>. *A lawsuit awaiting a decision in front of the U.S. Supreme Court is delaying the* reintroduction of a bill that would designate Route 66 as a National Historic Trail, according to a newsletter sent Thursday from the Route66 Road Ahead Partnership's chairman. Bill Thomas, partnership chairman, stated the Supreme Court probably won't rule on the Cowpasture River Preservation Association v. Forest Service case until June. Arguments before the high court are scheduled for next month.

#### All British Car Show—September 2019 Photos by Richard Etz

