



Overdrive

August/September, 2010 Official Newsletter of the Central Indiana Austin-Healey Club Vol2010 Issue 8

From the President

By Jim Frakes

The Austin Healey Sports and Touring Club, (AHSTC) puts on an annual event similar to the AHCA Conclave each year. Encounter 2010 was in Blue Bell, PA., just NW of Philly. Melanie and Bob Haskell took advantage of the close proximity to New York, to visit Bob's parents in Baldwinsville, NY (near Syracuse). They arrived in Blue Bell Wed. about noon, driving the Mini Cooper. I left early Tuesday AM in the BJ8 taking two lanes most of the way: IN 38, US 35 in Ohio, through Parkersburg, WV, and through parts of Maryland before heading back North to Breezewood, PA. for an overnight stop and meet up with Dick Storrs. He left the Indy area late on Tuesday afternoon and arrived about 9:00 PM in Breezewood, taking I-70 all the way. We drove the final three hours into Blue Bell on Wed morning on the PA Turnpike, arriving about 10 AM.

This year, Encounter started on Wednesday afternoon August 11th with a bus ride to the Simeone Foundation Museum, near the Philadelphia Airport. What a fantastic museum. We highly recommend visiting it if you are in the Philly area especially if near the airport. Dr Simeone, himself was our tour guide of his collection of famous or near famous Sports cars. Examples include the Cobra Daytona coupe which set records at Bonneville in '66 with Craig Breedlove driving, the 1938 Mille Miglia winning Alfa Romeo, a Nurburgring winning car and a Le Mans winning car. There is an Austin-Healey 100 in the Bonneville Salt Flats display and another in the workshop. Overall, about 60-80 cars in a great setting with large posters of racing events and people. One section has three Mille Miglia cars in an Italian Village setting. Dinner (Philly cheese steak sandwiches of course) was included in our tour.

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Mary Ann Warner



The above picture shows Mary Ann and Charlie Warner with the Miami Valley Club's 2008 Award of Merit. Mary Ann passed away on Tuesday July 20, 2010. A friend of many of us in Indy who will be missed.

Next Event

Business meeting is Thursday September 8th at Logan's Roadhouse, 4825 East 82nd Street, Indianapolis, (317) 598-1347.

Times: 6:30 pm - dinner
7:30 pm - meeting

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Mr. Healey's Neighborhood

Central Indiana AHC

<http://www.ciahc.org>

Bluegrass AHC

<http://www.bluegrassclub.com>

Northern Indiana AHC

<http://members.aol.com/midwestah/club/>

Ohio Valley AHC

<http://members.aol.com/ovaustinhealey/>

Indiana British Car Union

<http://www.ibcu.org>

Marque Matters Blog

<http://www.marquematters.blogs.com/>

AH Club of America

<http://www.healeyclub.org/>

From the editor

Club elections are coming soon. Please consider volunteering for a position next year (anyone want to do the newsletter? :^) Do we need a club historian? Someone to collect all the newsletters, event info, and pictures we've taken over the years?

Encounter 2010 was a lot of fun – would have been better in a Healey. To add to what Jim said – we got to talk with Peter Healey (Donald's grandson) and his two children Rosie and Tim. Rosie won a set of seat covers that Peter said will not go on his Healey. I guess he'll have to buy the kids one (or two). By leaving early Jim and Dick missed a very good meal at the awards banquet. Gordon Whitby talked about Bonneville and (the fall of) the British car industry. He's planning to be in Bonneville next year for the streamliner's return visit. We gave the Healeys and the Whitbys each a cookbook (remember the cookbooks?)

Steven Kingsbury has put together a couple of DVDs of the video he shot at Bonneville last year. They are available on his web site at <http://www.airtightproductions.com>. I'll be bring our set to the September business meeting.

A couple of thoughts from the Conclave trip: it would be nice if more folks had a CB radio installed in their car. Cell phones are good for one on one conversations, but the CB is quicker and everyone can hear what's being discussed and jump in. The next time we have such a large traveling group, we might want to consider splitting into two groups which would make it easier to keep track of everyone.

I would like to publish the newsletter by the first of the month. Articles or photos for the newsletter are welcome and appreciated. Please get them to me by the 25th so I can include them in the next issue.

Bob

July 2010 Business Meeting Minutes

By Bob Haskell

8 July 2010 Oaken Barrel (Greenwood) .

Jim Frakes called the meeting to order.

Attending the Jim Alderson, Randy and Janet Belden, David Broyles, Pat Bruce, Jim and Sandy Burck, Dick and Ruth Buis, Jim and Beverly Bush, Jim Frakes, Bruce and Charlene Gilham, Bob and Melanie Haskell, John Mann, Jon Monies, Craig and Sue Rice,
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July 2010 Business Meeting Minutes cont'd

Norm and Suzy Schoppenhertz, Jim Switzer, Bruce and Barbara Watson, and Don Yost.

June business minutes accepted as published in July issue of Overdrive.

Treasurer/Membership Report - 59 members. Craig has 3 tickets for the Brickyard for sale.

The club received an email from Laura Eisenbarth about her dad, Ron Elkin, who is an avid Healey lover and is living in Avon. Laura wanted to know if anyone in the club would be willing to bring their car around for Ron to see and take a spin. Jim Frakes drove his white BJ8 over to meet Ron, Laura, her husband and 19 year old son. Jim gave Ron a ride in the Healey and some old Healey Marques magazines and a calendar. They will try to meet the group going to Conclave at Brownsburg.



Ron Elkin with one of two Healeys he has owned.

Upcoming Events

British V8 meet is at the Clarion Hotel on Waterville Blvd this weekend.

Encounter - Jim and Doug Frakes, Bob and Melanie Haskell, and Dick Storrs are planning on attending.

Ice cream social - 21st - Jim Bush will figure out the route and schedule. Will send the info to Bob Haskell for distribution.

Indy British Motor Days is on the 29th at the American Legion in Carmel. Austin-Healey is the featured marque.

September 9th Business Meeting: may be putting together goody bags for September Roundup - other clubs are collecting merchandise for them.

September 11th - choice of two events: The British Car Show at Lemon Creek Winery on the 11th or the British Car Shows on the 11th and 12th at the Columbus Scottish Festival in the Bartholemew County Fairgrounds (free if you drive a British car).

September Roundup - send in registrations and room reservations

Winoa Lake - usually one day trip. nice shops for the ladies. The weather can be a bit cool on the drive up.

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July 2010 Business Meeting Minutes cont'd

Other News

Moscow covered bridge - the 2nd span has been installed. The floor is not installed. Pat Bruce is willing to set up a covered bridge tour when completed.

Bob Haskell brought a couple of new Healey books to the meeting – Mr. Big Healey, the biography of John Chatham, and Austin-Healey by Graham Robson.

Bruce Watson went to the Vintage Race at Mid-Ohio.

Cars for sale

Jim Frakes has the information for a 59 BN4 - daily driver, non club member. \$21,000 and a Healey Blue BJ8 - \$50K. Two bugeyes are for sale: Jim Gifford's and Sandy Taylor's. Details on our website.

Conclaves

Conclave 2011 Colorado Springs July 2nd - 8th. Jim Frakes has the registration form. Will be able to register at Galenia. The car show will be on July 4th at the Air Force Academy. Will be able to stay after the show to see the fireworks. Dinner later in the week at the Flying W ranch.

Conclave 2012 is in Louisville and Conclave 2013 will be east of Quebec City, Canada.

Driving plans for Conclave 2010: two day drive - 192 miles to Morton IL (4 hr 17 min). 198 miles (3 hr 59min) second day. Mostly 2 lane state roads. Meet at the Brownsburg McDonalds on I-136 - not the one on Green Street. Others can meet at Haskells at 9:30. New interchange on I-74 (Ronald Regan) that will exit before Brownsburg to miss the traffic in town. Leave Brownsburg at 10:30am, meet Monies in Crawfordsville. time zone change - have lunch in northside of Danville, IL (12-12:15). 45 minutes later is an old/closed air force base - visit the museum. \$8-10 admission. Spend about 1 1/2 hour. another 1-1/2 hour (4 o'clock) Mackinaw Valley Vineyards. 30 minutes farther the hotel. Sister Groove and the Crosstown jam is playing at 7pm. Various places to eat - fast food, Irish pub, Ruby Tuesday, etc near the hotel.

Second day starts along the IL. river to I-80. Watch for deer, senic. Can take Rt 6 or I-80 across to quad city area. When we reach Moline, take I-84 along the east side of the Mississippi River. A couple of places to stop along the way. About 1 1/2 driving time to Galenia after lunch. If we leave hotel by 8:30, should arrive at Galenia around 2-3.

Buis, Switzers, and Schmidts have extra space for hauling stuff.

Jim Switzer mentioned a museum that he didn't have time to check out - Wheel of Time Museum in Peoria.

Other

Bruce Watson is willing to help with roadster soft top installation. Will be putting together a write-up and photos.

Norm and Suzy are looking for bugeye seats.

From the President cont'd

Several AHCA members attended and of course some with dual memberships in both clubs. Great to see Charlie Warner (Miama Valley) attending with Gary Feldman (NE Ohio). North Carolina was represented by several including Carl and Linda Brown.

Rallye time on Thursday proved a challenge for us Hoosiers. Three legs to the rallye: a timed section, a distance section, and a follow-the-colored-stake section. Directions on the first leg were in the form of cartoons about driving. From the cartoons, you determined the direction to take! Obviously, we misinterpreted several directional signals as we were ½ hour late on the first section. Of course my Rallye Navigator par excellence does not give up easily and we pressed on! After a while it became more of a sightseeing tour as the area is loaded with history.

Bob and Mel dropped out early and were not happy with the directions either. The area is beautiful but full of traffic! By late afternoon we were ready for the hospitality which followed, then a nice BBQ dinner and a talk by Gordon Whitby, former BMC USA West Coast Manager of competition. After the BBQ, the group went out doors to a Valve Cover Derby. Valve covers painted in a vast array of designs, some very creative, some not so creative, were mounted with various types of wheels ranging from a pair of roller skates strapped to the cover, to CD's snapped on, made the two way races down the track. Some were weighted so heavy, you dare not get in its way as it crossed the finish line. Participation by various (YOUNG) entrants was amazing. Dick Storrs and I felt there were nearly 80- 100 spectators and participants.

Concours judging was on Friday, but the BJ8 I was supposed to judge, did not make it to the show, due to trailer problems, excusing me to go on to the Gymkhana. A local college parking lot was laid out on a rather long and challenging layout. It included two complete 360 circles, one left hand and one right hand. Of course it favored the Sprites, which were many. The group had major participation from the approximately 100 registrations. Amazingly, many younger people attended and participated, hence the number of Sprites.

After a portion of the Gymkhana, Bob, Melanie and I visited the Valley Forge memorial site for the afternoon. Very interesting and wish we could have spent more time but we wanted to return early enough to catch a portion of the Tech Session on distributor testing. The talk was presented by a mechanic who brought a tester similar to the one Bob has. It was very informative to see how the tester works. Dinner was on our own, so Mel found a local pub for the Hoosier group to dine in.

Saturday's Funkhana was a rousing success with people of all ages joining in. Several cars had two and three generations participating. Using the former Gymkhana course from the previous day, several stations were set-up to challenge the participants. The first station required the driver to stop and allow the passenger to hop out, make a pizza from Play-Doh, place it into the box, jump back in the car, all the while the driver had to do a parallel park. Station two required the passenger to jump out and hand the pizza to a person waiting behind a screen door, then jump back in. The next station had a pitcher of water used to fill a soft drink cup, then on to the fourth station. At the fifth, the driver had to don a chef's apron and chef's hat, make one swipe at peeling a carrot, remove the chef's gear, pick up a cane and drive to the next station. As they passed this station, the passenger, used the cane to hook a shopping bag, not always successful but there were two to try for. Lastly, the next station allowed the passenger to get out, place the bag and cane in a shopping cart, and push the cart over the finish line. Best times won!

Saturday afternoon from 12-4 was the car show followed by the evening awards dinner. Dick Storrs and I decided to leave early, about 3:30, and drive part way back. Mel and Bob stayed on and returned on Sunday. (Jim and Dick missed a very good meal – Gary Feldman received first place for his 100 in the car show – editor.)

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All of us would give the AHSTC a very good rating for the Encounter event and expect to return next year in Lancaster PA, if possible. Rallye, hmmm! Ok, we showed we are not pro's. The car show in a parking lot did not compare with downtown Galena, but you can't have everything. The Valve Cover Derby, Gymkhana, Funkhana, Hospitality, and the friendliness of the AHSTC people were all exceptional. The auctions, (silent and charity bidding) were great, regalia was plentiful, scenery was very nice and hotel was top notch.

On the return trip, Dick Storrs lead the way across the Turnpike and onto I-70. We stopped for gas and Dick decided to change a tire that was making some rumblings. Good thing, it looked pretty bad to me, especially driving mostly over 70 MPH! We stopped at dark in Washington PA and took the last room available. Not only was the Pony League baseball championships in town, but Willie Nelson also. Sunday, we were in by Noon, a total of over 1360 miles round trip for me. Dick, a little less in his straight line run, but mine was much more scenic, especially through Northern Maryland.

Conclave 2010

By Bob Haskell

Our trip to Conclave started on Saturday, July 10th. For those traveling on Saturday, met at the McDonald's / Donotato's parking lot on Main Street in Brownsburg. As Melanie and I pulled in, we were glad to see that Sandy Burck had convinced Jim to drive the 100. Ron Ekins (see the business meeting minutes) and his family were there to look at the cars, talk, and to see us off. After coffee and/or a second breakfast we headed northwest on US-136. We had planned on meeting Jon Monies and Joan Wright in Crawfordsville, but Jon called before we left saying that they were in Crawfordsville already and would continue on – surely all the big Healeys could catch up to a Sprite? We had a pretty large crew: Randy and Janet Belden, Jim and Sandy Burck, Jim and Bev Bush, Jim Frakes, Bruce and Charlene Gilham, Bob and Melanie Haskell, John and Kathi Mann, Jim and Jo Switzer, and Bruce and Barbara Watson. Other club members traveling separately to Conclave were Roy Bowman, Dick and Ruth Buis, Craig and Sue Rice, and Dick and Sherry Storrs.

As we approached Covington, IN, Jon called again to tell us to ignore the US-136 detour and just drive through town. About that time, the Switzers took a detour looking for a truck stop where Jim could get a new CB antenna. We stopped in Danville, IL for a break and to see where the Switzers were. After the first phone conversation and waiting ten minutes for each other to show up at the other location, a second phone call got us all to a Wendy's for lunch. Hey, we caught up with Jon and Joan (for a bit).

Leaving Danville, we stayed on US-136 heading north and followed it as it turned back west.

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*I know Ohio has drive thru package stores ...
(Photo by Jo Switzer)*



Jim and Bev Bush (Photo by Jo Switzer)

Conclave 2010 cont'd

The next stop was at the Chanute Air Museum in Rantoul, IL. Most of us parked in the middle of the lot, but the Manns found a shade tree to park their car under. Melanie and I were pleased to see a few Rolls-Royce (some Allison) powered aircraft – Lockheed Martin C130, North American Aviation P-51H Mustang and Vought A7 Corsair II. There were a couple of engines on display: a J33 turbojet and a 250-B17 which weighted 140 lbs and produced 317 horsepower. How much does a 6 cylinder Healey engine weigh?

Jim Frakes found that one of the Frasca flight simulators used some of the ball and sockets found on the Healey 100 throttle linkage.

With short stretch on the I-74 interstate around Bloomington, IL and a brief stop to check with the Bushs about some exhaust smoke, we headed to the Mackinaw Valley winery for some wine tasting. Probably should have made sure that Jim Burck had enough wine to take the edge off the upcoming surprise. Leaving the winery on a country road looking for US-150, Jim and Jo Switzer were leading, going by their GPS unit. A few miles up the road, we hit a section of gravel, just the length of a home owner's property. We travel the gravel, with Jim apologizing on the CB and saying it won't happen again. About a mile further, the road turned to gravel as far as the eye can see and US-150 is a mile away. Do we continue on or turn around? On we go, hoping that Sandy isn't in too much trouble. Jo popped out of the sunroof to take some pictures. Finally a left turn on to US-150 and on to the Baymont Inn in Morton, IL for the night. Hey Jim, my GPS has a setting to avoid unpaved roads!

Up and at 'em Sunday morning, Jim Frakes left early so he could get the Conclave 2011 table set up on time. Jon and Joan unplug the battery tender and head out. We then decide to have a tech session: the Bushs' BJ8 won't start. The fuel pump sounded pretty loud; took the fuel line off the front carburettor and turned the ignition switch on: no fuel. So off with the right rear wheel to have a look. There's a long rubber hose running from the tank to the aftermarket pump and it's partially torn at the fuel pump inlet. We cut the cracked section off and reattached the hose to the pump. Now there's fuel at the carburettor and away we go. Hey Jim, the hose is probably still too long – might want to shorten it sometime.

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Sorry Jim, really! (Photo by Melanie Haskell)



A rest stop after the rain (Photo by Jo Switzer)



Car Show in Galena (Photo by Jo Switzer)

Conclave 2010 cont'd

Lunch was at Jimmie Lee's in Port Byron, IL. Heading north we find rain. Rain! We probably shouldn't remind Jim Burck of the rain. Windshield fogging up and wipers not working made for a slow trip north. I'm sure the car is dried out by now - right?

Monday's big event was the car show in downtown Galena. Modeled after our Conclave 2000 show in Zionsville, IN, it was a wonderful setting. Beautiful buildings, good restaurants and plenty of places to shop. There wasn't an SOB class for the MG, but the Midwest club made room in the modified Healey class. Jumping ahead to Thursday evening when the popularity awards were announced: Craig and Sue Rice received 3rd place and Jim and Sandy Burck received 2nd place in the Austin-Healey 100 class. Roy Bowman won the BJ8 (one light) class with his recently 'completed' car (are they ever completed?). Very nice.



Roy Bowman and his BJ8 (Photo by Jo Switzer)

Tuesday was a light day for us. After buying some engine oil for the B, we went to the Gymkhana to watch Jon Monies, Burce Watson, and Dick Buis run between the cones. Jon placed 2nd in the large engine Sprite stock class. We didn't make it over to the Funkhana, but Craig and Sue Rice received an Award of Excellence for their run. I understand there was some cheese heads and corn hole involved. Jim Frakes and Jim Switzer were judges for the Concours cars. Later in the afternoon was a tech session that looked at the differences between the 100 and the 100-S. I was a little surprised to see the 100-S horn(s) was mounted on the chassis just above the steering box mounting, right next to the tire. The women's event was an afternoon tea in the Eagle Ballroom. Charlene Gilham, Ruth Buis, Jo Switzer and Melanie Haskell and former Central Indiana member Karen Richmond attended.

Refreshments included finger sandwiches, scones, and an assortment of hot teas. After the refreshments, a group of actors portrayed women in Galena history. The actors were dressed in period costumes and described their character's lives. Their stories were very interesting and moving. The characters portrayed included a Civil War nurse and Former First Lady Julia Grant. After the actors finished their performance, each participant made a lovely pearl bracelet as a reminder of Conclave 2010. Tuesday evening the club had a great dinner at Fried Green Tomatoes restaurant on Main St in Galena.

Wednesday several members of the Central Indiana group took the Wisconsin Arts & History Tour to Mineral Point, WI. We experienced Gravity Hill and toured the Cornish Settlement. We had lunch at Brewery Creek Brewpub, a restored stone 1850s warehouse.

We got back in time so I could attend Peter Caldwell's (World Wide Auto Parts) shock absorber tech session. Two points
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Sue Rice (Photo by Jo Switzer)

Conclave 2010 cont'd

that I took away were – you shouldn't have to top off the fluid if the shock isn't leaking and you don't want to fill the shock up to the point of overflowing. Leave some air space for expansion, or the fluid may push it's way past the seals. That will attract dirt which will tear up the seals.

That evening, dinner was on the Celebration Belle river boat on the Mississippi. Good food, live music, and a couple of bald eagles were sighted. We visited the bridge to talk to the captain and hear a few of his jokes.



*Joan Wright and Charlene Gilham
(Photos by Jo Switzer)*



*Jim Switzer mets a local constable
while Don Klein looks on*



Jon and Joan's Sprite

Thursday was Rally day! Bob and Melanie left the beautiful Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa to spend approximately 6 hours attempting to complete the “fun” rally. We were not successful! Did I mention that it was ~95 deg and the MGB is not air-conditioned? (now Melanie)

The awards banquet was Thursday night in the Eagle Ballroom. It was a fun banquet, the food was great and our club won some awards. In addition to the car show awards mentioned earlier, I am happy to report that Dick and Sherry Storrs won 1st place in the “Get the Lead Out” Fun (gimmick) Rally. Our club won the Edie Anderson participation award for a having the highest percentage of the chapter's membership at Conclave. Way to go.

Friday arrived and it was time to head home. Most of us made it a two day trip with a stop for the night in Urbana. Jim Frakes went over to Blackhawk Farms for the track day and then drove down to Urbana for the night. Saturday – what can one say about Saturday? Not keeping up/together, out of gas, loose bonnet, noisy alternator, road construction detours, I-74. Enough said.

Will have some more pictures from Conclave next month.

Tech Sessions / Progress / For Sale

This is driving season, so I hope that there aren't too many cars off the road. The Haskells will be probably be driving the MGB the rest of the season. Bob is thinking about pulling the rest of the engine out and taking the block to Redi-Strip to get the water passages cleaned. Will get a spare tri-carb block cleaned first to see just how deep the water jacket is suppose to be.

January 2010							February 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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31													
March 2010							April 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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May 2010							June 2010						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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September 2010							October 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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5	6	7	8	B	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						
November 2010							December 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	

- January
 - 14th Business Meeting
- February
 - 14th Daytona Party / Business Mtg
 - 28nd Chicago British Swap Meet
- March
 - 11th Business Meeting
- April
 - 8th Business Meeting
 - 10th Clean Up at the Haskells
 - 24th Oliver Winery Tour
- May
 - 1st NIAHC Spring Tune-Up
 - 6th Business Meeting
 - 15th - 16th SpringThing 2009
 - 21st - 23rd Carlisle Import Car Show
 - 30th Indy 500 Party
- June
 - 5th British Bash (Louisville)
 - 5th - 6th Champagne, IL British Car
 - 10th Business Meeting
 - 19th Live Steam Trains
- July
 - 8th Business Meeting
 - 11th - 16th Conclave
- August
 - 11th - 15th Encounter, Blue Bell, PA
 - 21st - Ice Cream Social
 - 29th Indy British Motor Days
- September
 - 9th Business Meeting
 - 11th Lemon Creek
 - 17th - 19th September Round Up
- October
 - 2nd British Fall Out, Winona Lake
 - 14th Business Meeting
- November
 - 11th Business Meeting