



# Overdrive

November, 2011 Official Newsletter of the Central Indiana Austin-Healey Club

## **From the President**

*By Jim Frakes*

The Holiday Season is upon us, and the activities just keep coming. As with all of us in this season, the Healey activities may slow down but the social commitments speed up! In the middle of November, starting with a four day business trip to Orlando (somebody had to go), the National Delegates meeting in Louisville, and a wedding in Shepherdsville on Saturday afternoon, followed by a Sunday drive to Chicago for four days of business meetings, I was in my own home one night in fourteen.

Speaking of the Delegates meeting, an always busy event, it was also a very productive and informative annual meeting. First, as we look around, many of us are getting older, and our membership is declining. National is approximately 3000 now, although Central Indiana is, fortunately, holding very steady. A quick comment from the National membership officer, Mike Schneider, stated if all the membership chairs were as good as Craig Rice, he would have a much less difficult job.

Thanks, Craig.

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## **Coming Events**

The November business meeting will be Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> at SQUEALERS Southern Barbecue at 5515 West 86<sup>th</sup> Street (corner of 86<sup>th</sup> and Zionsville Road) 871-7427.



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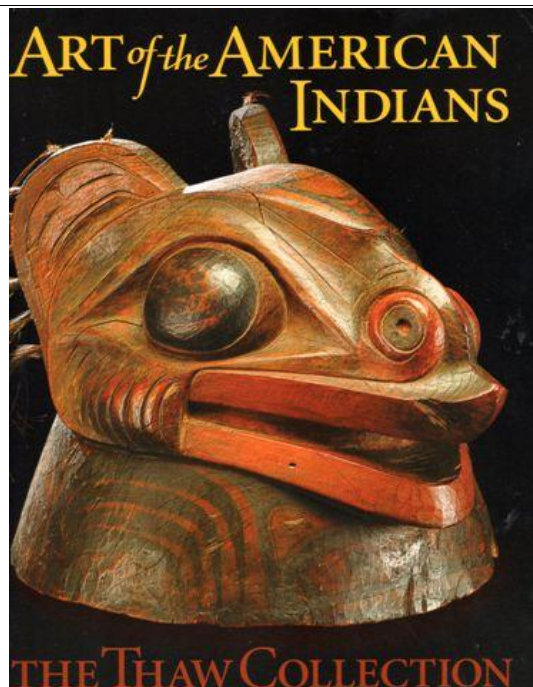
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Join us January 21, 2012 at the  
Indianapolis Museum of Art for a tour  
of The Thaw Collection

**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/>

The National AHCA Budget held pretty steady due to some unexpected news. First, Conclave Colorado was a success - both from a financial standpoint and a successful entertainment view. A lot of people helped tremendously. There are too numerous to mention all those involved. but Ohio Valley club ranks high as well as Gary Feldman, (NE Ohio), Greg Lauser (Minnesota) Bob Gilleland (N Texas) Bonnie Ayer (Gulf Coast) and especially John May (Atlanta) and Carl Brown (Carolinas). Every attendee should have received a free (Free is Good!) DVD of the event from David May.

The excellent articles in the Healey Marque should tell all of the enjoyment Healeyphiles had and best of all, the 2010 Conclave committee turned over about \$9,000 to the AHCA Treasury. That helps the budget! This week we received notice from Reid Trummel, Marque editor, that his Marque budget was under by \$4,800 - proof of another outstanding job by Reid. Don't we wish our Government could trim their budgets like that!

You should have received your November Marque AND the 2012 Calendar, poly bagged together. This was a money saving move, but do not expect poly bagging monthly, this is a very costly expenditure.

As we move into the New Year, please remember it is Central Indiana's turn to host September Round-up. We have reserved the Holiday Inn in Columbus as the host hotel and are putting together the events calendar now. This year, we voted to expand to three full days, hoping to make it a more leisurely event. Here are some SUGGESTIONS, open to discussion, as to what can be planned:

- Thursday evening - Registration and Hospitality.
- Friday morning - Walking Rally downtown Columbus ending at Zaharako's Ice Cream Parlor for lunch.
- Friday afternoon - a self-guided driving tour of Columbus' significant architectural buildings with map from the Visitor's Bureau, shop at the Premium Outlet Mall in Edinburg, or drive to quaint Nashville for unique shopping, antiquing, art galleries, including a tour of the T.C. Steele Museum.
- Friday evening - Hospitality at 6:00, dinner on your own, and Funkana at 7:30.
- Saturday morning - Car Wash beginning at 7:20 and Car Show from 9:30 - 11:00. Rally Master Instructions meeting at 11:15 with first car off at 11:30 for a scenic Brown County adventure.

- Saturday evening – 6:30 Happy Hour with Banquet at 7:30 followed by Awards Ceremony.
- Sunday morning – farewells and departure.

We have developed a list of event chairs, some of which have been filled. We are looking at Volunteers for the open slots. Please contact me via email if you wish to volunteer.

It is my desire to have a 2011 review and wrap-up of our events published before the January meeting. This is always a planning meeting for the year and it helps to review the busy year we had.

Eight members volunteered their services for a strip (the car, not the guys) Tech Session in the Frakes Warehouse on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. The BJ8 was a sad case, hit very hard in the left front years ago, with major damage to the front frame members and steering. Removal of the engine and transmission proved a challenge as the head had been removed, throwing off the normal lifting attachments and balance of the assembly very difficult! Ever see an engine stand on its transmission butt while being removed? It is not totally stripped, but with a lot of help, it is well on its way. Thanks fellows.

### ***October 2011 Business Meeting - at the re-sided and painted barn of Jim and Bev Bush.***

The meeting was called to order by Jim Frakes (President)

Attending the meeting were:

Roy Bowman, Pat and Debbie Bruce, Ruth and Dick Buis, Jim and Bev Bush, Bill Coan and Sandy Ferguson, Jim and Karen Frakes, Bruce and Charlene Gilham, Bob and Melanie Haskell, Tim Haskell, Paul Imel and Kay Goldsburg, Jon Mann, Jon Monies and Joan Wright, David Morrison and Bonnie Stahlecker, Craig and Sue Rice, Dick and Sherry Storrs, Jim and Jo Switzer, and Bruce Watson.

### **Election of officers:**

The current officers were elected for another year with Melanie picking up the duties of a new position - Events Chair. Roy Bowman and Bruce Watson offered to assist Melanie with the event planning. The officers are:

- President, Jim Frakes
- Vice President/Event Chair, Melanie Haskell
- Secretary/Webmaster, Bob Haskell
- Treasurer/Membership, Craig Rice
- Delegate, Jim Switzer
- Newsletter Editor, Bruce Gilham

The Christmas party will be on Dec 3rd at South Harbour Club House (Noblesville). We are going to start at 4PM for socializing, gift exchange (\$20), and dinner at 6:30. Please bring donations for the food pantry at the West Newton Worship and Youth Center. Items needed include canned goods, detergent, paper products, and cereal.

Bruce Gilham extended an offer from Charlene and to put together a tour of the Arts of the American Indiana exhibit at the IMA. Charlene would be our docent. Charlene will set it up for a Saturday in January.

Jo Switzer asked if any of the ladies would like to get together for tea at Serendipity (Tea Room) in Zionsville for \$18/person. Let Jo know if you're interested.

Bob Haskell  
AHCA 3000 Mark I Registrar  
[http://www.ciahc.org/registry\\_3000mk1.php](http://www.ciahc.org/registry_3000mk1.php)

## Some scenes from the 2011 Southeastern Classic held at Guntersville State Park Lodge near Guntersville, Alabama



## 2011 Calendar of Events

December 3rd - Christmas Party at South Harbour Club House. Appetizers at 4:00, Gift Exchange at 5:00, and Dinner at 6:30. Please bring an appetizer, salad, or desert. And, bring a wrapped \$20.00 gift for the exchange – marked male, female, or uni-sex.

January 21st, 11:30am - lunch at the Indianapolis Museum of Art Nourish Café followed by a docent guided tour (by our own Charlene Gilham) of **The Thaw Collection** featuring **The Art of the American Indians**, beginning at 12:45 pm, ending around 1:45 pm. Non-member parking is \$5.00. Admission to the museum is free, but the fee for The Thaw Collection is \$8.00 per person.



## 2011 Mille Miglia North America Tribute

(Courtesy of [www.ClassicDriver.com](http://www.ClassicDriver.com))

The car count and competitive intensity might have been significantly toned down from its European namesake, but the inaugural Mille Miglia North America Tribute (October 26-28) created its own 'bella figura' with a blend of Italian spirit and culture and some of the finest driver's roads in North America.



Around four dozen period correct (1927-1957) classic cars, including the obligatory Ferraris and Alfas, a 1935 Delahaye 135 MS, a 1957 Lotus XI, a 1953 Allard K3 and American 'iron' in the form of a 1954 Corvette and 1928 Chrysler 'Mille Miglia' Roadster took to the scenic and circuitous 1,000-mile route that began and ended in Santa Barbara, with the turnaround point at San Francisco's Stinson Beach.

**But the driver who captured the most attention was John Nikas and his 1953 Austin-Healey 100. Far from being a Concours Queen, the well-used Healey had just completed a 7,000-mile-plus coast-to-coast and return run to Nikas' Irvine, CA home as part of his Drive Away Cancer campaign, prior to tackling the 1,000 miles of the MMNAT.**

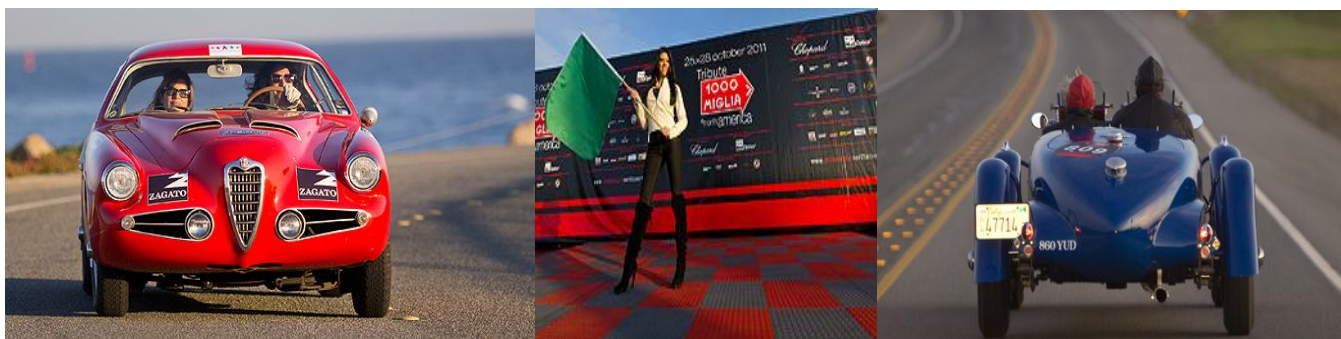
**Although there were no timed stages and thus no trophies for finishing first, Cable reports that Nikas was always the first to arrive at all the stops on the tour. Even so, he could still be considered the event's 'winner', as he was one of five entrants selected by drawing to receive automatic eligibility into the 2012 Mille Miglia in Italy. Better yet, of those lucky five, Nikas was chosen by Stratus to have his entry fee and transportation costs fully paid.**

The 3-day drive included crossing the Golden Gate Bridge before picking up the narrow and twisting path of Highway 1 as it travels from Half Moon Bay to the surfing mecca of Santa Cruz. Then the cars headed to Monterey-Carmel, from where the legendary road clings to the rocky coastal mountains of Big Sur on a jagged path to the quaint seaside village of Cambria. The inland roads of California's Central Coast contributed their own scenic driver's challenges as they wound around the prolific vineyards of Paso Robles and the Santa Ynez Valley.



The intention, according to Jeremy Cable of Stratus Media Group, Inc., the event's organizer, was to avoid the area's major highways while travelling on such roads as that based on the former Butterfield Stage Coach trail through Santa Ynez and Carmel Valley Road, through Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* territory. Cable said the idea was to trace California's heritage just as the Mille Miglia runs through Italy's historic towns and cities.

Besides the music and meals that feted the participants, the event's Italian flair also included Giordano Mozzi, overall winner of the 2011 Mille Miglia retrospective. Mozzi was driving an MG co-piloted by his son.



With a five-car North American 'team' running in next year's Mille Miglia expounding on the virtues of California's scenic route, next year's North America Tribute may include many overseas entrants eager to experience both events.