



Overdrive

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President's Message Oct 2023

You would think that our club members who can deftly handle 3 pedals with their feet would be able to transfer that left/right skill to the dance floor. The jury is out on that one. But at one time or another, everyone at the October 28th meeting at Bush's barn was on the dance floor. Not a formal dance but square dance lessons. It was back in high school, or earlier, when most of us last did the Virginia Reel. Thanks to local caller Bill Garrison for showing us the ropes.

First time attendees at the Bush Bash were David Broyles and Skip Taylor and wife Kris. David drove down from Fairmount in search of a Crosley engine part posted on the web, supposedly in Shelbyville area. Skip and Kris had a shorter commute from Columbus. It was nice to have new faces at a meeting.

I learned Skip is a volunteer at Bakalar Air Museum in Columbus. I have heard of a classic car shop in Columbus I want to tour so maybe we can combine the two next year.

I also found out long time member David Broyles is now a Fairmount City Council member. I knew he was on the Library Board but did not know he had broadened his civic responsibilities. Maybe a trip to James Dean country is in order for 2024.

At the meeting we held the election of officers for 2024. I repeat as President, Jo Switzer again is VP, Jim Switzer is our Delegate and Bob Haskell continues as Webmaster. A motion was brought forward, and approved, to split Treasurer and Membership duties. Steve Halleck will add Membership along with his Newsletter Editor skills. Jan Freers was elected to the Treasurer position. Many, many thanks to Craig Rice for his long tenure as our Treasurer/Membership officer.

We went over our September Round Up results and voted to donate \$3000 to Riley Children's Hospital. This presentation will take place November 14th at Monical's Pizza, 6010 W 86th Street in Traders Point Mall. Our long time meeting haunt, Squealers BBQ , has closed for good. Too bad, I liked the food, the venue, and the meeting room in the back.

So recalibrate your GPS and meet with us at Monical's.

Stay safe.

PARTS FOR SALE or WANTED TO BUY

(Please send me any news of cars/parts that are needed or for sale.- evetshalleck@yahoo.com)

Brandon Halleck is looking for some parts for a Mk2 Sprite. Since many of the parts are interchangeable with the bug-eye, we're hoping some of these might be around in someone's piles.

- . Heater blower
- . Sprite Mk2 or Midget Mk1 passenger front fender
- . Water pump pulley and generator pulley

Mike Pittman has this hardtop and a convertible top available. The hardtop's Vinyl, rubber, and plexiglass are in good shape. May need a headliner.

The soft top has never been installed, so the fasteners can be placed to fit. There is one slight imperfection on the flap behind the passenger window (can be seen in the last picture).

He also has a Bug-eye grill with VERY minor defects available.

Contact Mike Pittman if interested. mpitman1976@gmail.com 765-242-2709

Skip Taylor's Sprite came with a LOT of copies of Healey Marque magazines. If anyone is interested, Skip will give them away.

Next Business Meeting:

Our Holiday Gathering is 2:00, Dec 3 at the Woodstock Country Club 1301 W. 38th St, Indianapolis (across from Newfields).

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Mr. Healey's Neighborhood

Central Indiana AHC
<http://www.ciahc.org>

Bluegrass AHC
<http://www.bluegrassclub.com>

Miami Valley AHC
<http://sites.google.com/miamivalleyahccom>

Mid Ohio AHC
<https://sites.google.com/site/midohioahc/>

Northern Indiana AHC
<https://www.facebook.com/NorthernIndianaAustinHealeyClub>

Ohio Valley AHC
<http://ohiovalleyahc.com>

Indiana British Car Union
<http://www.ibcu.org>

Austin Healey Club of America
<http://www.healeyclub.org>

CIAHCA Business Meeting Minutes

Oct 28, 2023 at the Bush Barn

Attendees: Bev and Jim Bush, Jo & Jim Switzer, Debbie and Pat Bruce, Sherri and Dick Storrs, Bonnie Stahleker, David Broyles, Brandon Halleck, Melanie and Bob Haskell, Steve Halleck. Kris and Skip Taylor arrived late (it was their first trip to the barn).

Meeting started at 2:35.

Jim Bush started the meeting reviewing feedback received about what went wrong and what went right at September Roundup. The list on the 'what went wrong' side was much smaller than 'what went right', and the items 'wrong' are easily correctable.

Jim Switzer reported that Club Express (used by the national club) may be able to assist in promoting the efforts for future events.

The Bluegrass club is joining the rotation to host future September Roundups. Since Conclave will interfere with next year's event, the Bluegrass Springthing will be the regional event for next year. It's scheduled for May 16-19. Some discussion took place of a possible new name for September Roundup, with the new group being from a third state.

Jim Bush tried to contact the Burkes to see how they are doing, without success. He stopped by their house, tried to speak to the neighbors, and sent a letter to them and their son without response. Since they were active at the golf course near their home, it was suggested that someone check there. Jim is going to continue to try to get info on them.

With the Delegate's meeting coming up, Jo and Jim will be again hosting attendees Thursday before the meetings start. They put a lot of effort and their own money into hosting them. A motion was made and carried to reimburse the Switzers \$200.

Jo announced the Christmas Party will be Dec 3rd at 2:00 at Woodstock Country Club. The club will again cover the cost of the food and non-alcoholic drinks. There will be a cash bar. There will not be a white elephant gift exchange.

Jim Bush had to step out to cook, so Jo ran the (late) elections.

- Jim Bush will continue as President for another year.
- Jo Switzer will continue as Vice President
- Jim Switzer will continue as the club's Delegate for another year, with Bob Haskell taking over in 2025.
- Steve Halleck will continue to edit the newsletter.
- Bob Haskell will continue to run the website.
- After doing the jobs for longer than anyone in the club can remember, Craig is getting to step down from Treasurer and Membership. The jobs will split up with Jan Freers taking over Treasurer, and Steve Halleck picking up Membership.

Since we already had too many items for the September Roundup auction, we will be donating the Gary Coker print from Roy Bowman's estate, and David Morrison's print to the Wisconsin club for their auction at Conclave.

There was a discussion of doing a better job of getting the club name out. One idea is to create 'business' cards with club info which could be passed out to people we meet who might be interested. There was also a discussion of putting a better presence on Facebook.

The club took in \$3900 profit from September Roundup this year. The club voted to give \$3000 of that to Riley Hospital for Children.

At this point, the hot dogs were ready and the meeting was abandoned in favor of eating.

Nov 14, Monical's Pizza

Attendees: Jan and Jeff Freers, Peter VanHorn, Pat Bruce, Bev & Jim Bush, Dick Storrs, Mel and Bob Haskell, Steve Halleck

The business meeting began at 6:18.

Jim Bush reported that Craig called and said he couldn't make it to the meeting.

Jim met with Mike Swanger from the Wisconsin club and discussed next year's Conclave. He said the Wisc club is getting excited about Conclave. 7 clubs have volunteered to help Wisc with the work but no jobs have been assigned yet. Their website is available 2024.Conclave.com. Jim passed out flyers to the group for the steam powered ferry across Lake Michigan (SS Badger). It runs from Ludington, MI to Manitowac, WI daily in September. Ludington is a little north of Muskegon, where we drove on our lighthouse tour a few years ago. Manitowac is just about 30 miles north of Sheboygan, where the Conclave hotel is. While expensive, taking the ferry saves having to drive through (or around) Chicago and Milwaukee making it a much easier trip, and would be a neat experience.

The Christmas party will be December 3 at 2:00 PM at the Woodstock Country Club. There will not be a white elephant gift exchange. There will be a cash bar and the club will pay for the meals. Casual holiday attire.

We need to continue work on our 2024 calendar. Bonnie is planning a trip to the Frank Lloyd Wright house in Lafayette.

Dick Storrs is working on another Carmel Roundabout drive. Dick also reported that the biggest steam locomotive made is coming to Chicago in 2024. As more info comes in, he'll see if this could be a club opportunity.

Bev indicated there will be a Ladies Tea in April.

Bring ideas to the January planning meeting!

Pat Bruce came up with possible new names for September Roundup.

Donna Fisher from Riley Children's hospital arrived and spoke about the fundraisers that Riley has, including a car show that we may participate in next year. The club then presented her with a check for \$3000 from September Roundup.

Miscellaneous Meanderings

By Steve Halleck

Doug Bruce sent an email about his latest racing exploits at Lake of the Ozarks. I didn't know the track existed! It includes a link to a video.

Wet and damp best describes the affair, oh, and cold too!

Skipped the first Friday morning session in the rain-my old bias ply Hoosiers were not going to be a good match for the others in rain tires, and I value my Bugeye more than hitting a wall. Went out later and took the pole for the first race Saturday. Saturday morning, in the final qualifying session-skipped it too, as it was wet again, no one who went out bumped me off pole, so I sat on pole over a TR4, A Porsche 914-6, and even the MGA of 8 time SCCA champion Kent Prather! (But he was back there and coming for sure).

So I went out on a damp track, slipped around a bit, so backed off and finished 3rd, but safe, in the first race Saturday. So in the attached video, I started 3rd for the 2nd race Saturday, on a drying track. As you can see, I slotted into 2nd after 3 turns (The 4 mile track has 17 turns!), and myself and the Porsche ran away from the 27 car field. I stayed within striking distance-and finally caught him missing a shift, and pounced! I then knew I needed perfect laps to get away from him and the Prather MGA, who I knew was coming! I managed to be very consistent, with 3 laps at a 3:00 time and then an even faster 2:58, then I pulled a personal best of a 2:56. Even the MGA only had 2 laps below 3:00 and at that, was still 2 seconds slower than my best lap. I won the race, beating Prather by over 14 seconds. I was able to drive the car unto the trailer Sunday, which is always a win too, no damage or work needed. Now-we will remove the engine for a bearing refresh-I have raced this engine for over 5 years, so it has lots of hours on it! Yes, Prather is also my engine builder-and a great guy, he is the gold standard for me-and very humble to boot!

It felt great to set the Merlyn Formula Ford aside and race the Bugeye. I know it so well, I can almost place it anywhere on the track. Others said not only did they see me racing it in numerous turns with a front wheel up in the air, but exiting turn 5, a rear wheel managed to sometimes go airborne! That is one stiff setup.

Here is the video link and a picture taken at the track too.

<https://youtu.be/niL6b5R5XvA?si=cwL8K1XKT84vJOpu>

Sincerely,
Doug Bruce

The Conclave website is up for registration – 2024Conclave.com. It looks like this is going to be a popular event, so it would be a good idea to get registered and secure your rooms early – especially if you are heading up early for the vintage races.

Doug Bruce will not be able to make Conclave but will be there for the vintage races with both his Sprite and Formula Ford. He's going to put a passenger seat in the Sprite to give track tour rides to the club during the noon touring sessions. He's also invited us to hang out at his trailer/paddock spaces and use it as a space to leave gear while we're at the track and be part of the race team for the weekend.

The 3000's brake gremlins were partially subdued at another tech session at Jim Bush's garage. We had isolated the problem with getting the brakes bled to the rear brakes previously, and one of the brake adjusters was frozen not allowing the drum to come off, so Jim ordered new parts. He ordered everything, not knowing what the condition the parts would be in once we got the drum off.

When the parts came in, Bob and I went back over for round 3 of trying to get the brakes bled. Bob had to unbolt the adjuster to get the drum loose. Fortunately, everything other than the adjuster was fine, so Jim has the parts for next time he needs to do a brake job.

After replacing the adjuster and putting the brakes back together, another round of bleeding worked! The brakes aren't as firm as we'd like, but they are working. Jim took a drive around the block to verify all is well with the world. He's going to do another round of bleeding later.

The Halloween party was a good time as usual. Once again, the group brought in a lot of good side dishes and desserts to provide us with the necessary daily caloric intake and the Schneider helped warm us. I admit that I was hesitant about the square-dancing plans, but when you are on the floor with a fun bunch of people who don't know a Dosado from an Allemand and are constantly having to be reminded to use their 'other left', it turns into a good time. Debbie Bruce was our star dancer, showing us how it's supposed to be done (we never learned).



If these people knew how to Square Dance, They would probably all be doing the same move.



Debbie was the teacher for line dancing. Bob Haskell (BH) photos.

We had a long stoppage working on Brandon's brakes. After SE Classic Brandon had to take care of a sick doggo then attended a conference where he picked up Covid. Finally getting a little time to work on the car, he got the new brake line attached. After a LOT more bleeding, he finally has a hard pedal. While looking at the connection for the power bleeder, I noticed that one of the carb float chambers was tilted. Further investigation showed the bolt that holds the chamber to the carb body was VERY loose despite being screwed in all the way. After removal and investigation, they were found to need professional help. The carbs have been shipped to Joe Curto for rebuilding. His Sprite finally has whoa, but now no go.



This is what the bushing for the wiper motor is supposed to look like. His motor was 'wobbling'.



These are the bushings from Brandon's Sprite.

The Delegate's tour this year was outstanding! Jim Switzer found two Indy themed places to tour. The first was Vintage Indy in Brownsburg. This shop restores (and displays) Indy cars. We were warmly met coming in by Mike Lashmett and Shannon Shields. Shannon is the granddaughter of 1050 Indy 500 winner Jonny Parsons. Mike runs the shop and conducted the tour. He's an ex-chief mechanic at Indy and has lots of amazing stories and knowledge of these cars. I would have liked to spend the whole day looking at the shop and listening to his stories.



Viewing the cars on display at the shop with Mike and Shannon (in black shirts). (BH)



Mike begins the tour.



Mike telling us about safety changes to the Gurney Eagle Chassis fuel cells and the effect on the car's handling.

We then headed to Zionsville to view part of the private car collection of Jim and Joan Voyles (Shannon's parents). Joan is the daughter of Jonny Parsons. We were again warmly greeted as we walked up the driveway, first by their dog Bentley, then by Joan and Jim. Jim and Joan showed us around their multiple garages. They have a very nice collection of cars, including a 3000. Interestingly, it took quite a while for Healey owners to open the bonnet on the 3000 as no one could find the release!

After touring the collection, we wandered down to Bub's Burgers for lunch.



Bentley Voyles



One of the Voyles garages (BH)



Inside the garage. (BH)



Notice the shift lever on Jim's Ferrari. It's only for selecting reverse. (BH)



Jim Switzer and I talking to Jim and Joan. Jim raced FV in SCCA with my brother. (BH)

At our November meeting, we presented the check to Riley Hospital for Children from our September Roundup proceeds.



The club presents the check to Donna Fisher from Riley's. (BH camera, photo courtesy of our waitress.)

Event Calendar

If you know of any I've missed, please let me know! Check the web site (www.ciahc.org) for changes. Bob is doing a great job of keeping it up to date.

2023 Events

December

3rd – Christmas Get Together, Woodstock Country Club, 1301 W. 38th St. 2:00

2024 Events

January

TBD – January planning meeting

BRING IDEAS TO THE JANUARY PLANNING MEETING!!

May

16th-19th – Springthing, TBD

September

15th-20th – Conclave, Elkhart Lake Racecourse & Blue Harbor Resort, Sheboygan, Wisc.