



## Tampa Bay Austin Healey Club



### President's Letter—April 2011

We started off the month of April with 14 member cars at the Winter Park All British Car Show on Saturday April 2. Several of us went over on Friday to attend the Meet and Greet at the host hotel, show organizer Rick Frazee's Mt. Vernon Best Western. It was great seeing many of my old friends from my time in Orlando when I was heavily involved with the Winter Park show.

I went over early Friday to take the Healey to my engine builder for a check up and tune in preparation for our trip to the Blue Grass AHC Spring Thing in May. Show day was wonderful, with a cool morning nicely warming for the afternoon. The rains earlier in the week had knocked all the falling oak leaves and blossoms down and the ground moisture kept the dust down, a problem in past years. Mead Gardens has an abundance of shade trees which contributed to the comfortable day. At awards time TBAHCers took a number of trophies in the Austin Healey, Bugeye, MGB and Jaguar classes. Photos and ballot results can be found at [www.allbritishcarclub.com](http://www.allbritishcarclub.com). Click on the event logo and scroll down to the bottom.

We had our monthly meeting on Thursday evening, April 7 at the Stoneybrook Pub. We had a great time at supper and then adjourned to the upstairs meeting room for our meeting. The meeting minutes from Secretary Mike Weatherby were previously sent out so I won't go through them again. Unfortunately this was our last meeting at the Pub as they are closing along with the Airco Golf course in mid May. I want to continue the alternating Saturday AM/Thursday PM meeting schedule as I think we are getting two different groups at the meetings and ultimately maybe more club members can participate in this fun activity. If you know of a potential Thursday evening meeting place let me know ASAP.

I would also like to have had a request for an activity for our southern coastal members in the Port Charlotte, Venice, Ft. Myers, etc. area. Walt and Joanne Mainberger will be holding the club picnic in June and maybe we can get some of the southern folks up for that. If any member in that area would like to host a trip similar to the overnight Villages trip let me know and I will get it scheduled. A weekend in Sanibel is always a great place to relax and enjoy Florida at its best. Let me know if you are interested in leading or helping with such an event. I know we can get some Tampa Bay folks down for that. There are also some club funds to help put on such an event.

On Saturday we again had 14 member cars (different group from Winter Park) at the 3rd Annual British Motor Classic held in conjunction with the Davis Islands - Islands Fest. This is always a fun show with lots to do outside the show field. Sweet Bay Grocery set up at the airport where the show is held and had free food for lunch and free water which was needed as it was HOT on the blacktop where the cars were parked. At awards time TBAHCers took home a lot of the unique license plate trophies. Photos and ballot results will be listed soon at [www.britishmotorclub.net](http://www.britishmotorclub.net) in the near future.

We have a lot of upcoming activities that I want to bring to your attention. All the details on each are on the website [www.tbahc.com](http://www.tbahc.com).

**May 7** – Our next monthly meeting will be held at Perkins Restaurant at the corner of Waters Av. and Anderson Rd. in Tampa. This is the Saturday breakfast meeting with breakfast starting at 8 AM and the meeting at 9 AM. I currently plan on showing the photos from the Villages trip after the meeting and would entertain any other program ideas.

**May 14** – There will be a celebration at the Tilted Kilt in Clearwater honoring several couples for their contributions to the British car hobby. Our own Clete and Karen Gardenhour are being recognized. Details on the website. RSVP to Dennis Magee [dmagee@ij.net](mailto:dmagee@ij.net) by May 9th.

**May 19 – 22** – Bluegrass AHC will be holding their annual Spring Thing celebration in Bowling Green Kentucky at the Corvette Museum. Linda and I are going, hope we can have some more TBAHCers join us. Details at [www.bluegrassclub.com](http://www.bluegrassclub.com).

**May 28 to June 4** – National Drive Your British Car Week. As part of the celebration I have arranged for featured billing at the June 4th Reeves Motorsport Gathering (a cars and coffee type event). The event runs from 7 AM to 9 AM followed by breakfast at a local restaurant. Reeves is located on the corner of Florida Av. and Fowler Av. After exiting I 275 at Fowler Av. West, turn left on to Florida Av. and follow the signs to the Gathering.

We also hope to have the date finalized for the Mainberger picnic in June.

I hope to see you at these events and I would really like for some volunteers to hold other events such as drives, get togethers, tech sessions, etc. Let me know what your ideas are.

In closing this month, I want to tell you that your Board of Directors has provided a donation to the DMH Memorial Fund in each of the names of our recently departed members. Those recognized through this memorial are:

Mr. David Hadler, died in early 2010. He is survived by his widow Mrs. Eryl Hadler.

Mr. David Kirkpatrick, died 1/25/2010. He is survived by his son Mr. Sean Kirkpatrick.

Mr. Richard Livingston, died 3/31/2011. He is survived by his widow Mrs. Barbara Livingston.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families.

See you on the road, Ron .....