



Gateway Relay

Vol XI, No. 4

St Louis Sports Car Council

April-May 2023

Council News & Notes

- Hoo-hah, 10-plus years into this organization and the newsletter and we do believe we've set a record for tardiness; our apologies. As noted in the masthead, this is a combined April-May issue, to be followed by a June issue around the middle of the month. From that point we should be able to a better job of staying on a schedule.
- Having said that, we're fully into the busy part of season, with the usual excellent variety of events to appeal to club members. As details and other information comes in about the events, be they road excursions, cruises, car shows or whatever, we'll get the word out.
- Along those lines, if your club has something planned or if you're reading this and are aware of some activity which may interest our wide range of member clubs, feel free to send the info along. As always, we can also use photos from member club events, shows and drives.
- And now, boldly into summer, eh?

Up & Coming

- **3 Jun 23**—Boone Trail Corvette Club **Motorheads Illinois Road Trip**. Monitor <https://www.boonetrailcc.com/>.
- **3 Jun 23**—**Cars & Coffee West/SunRise Church**, 7116 Twin Chimneys Blvd, O'Fallon, Missouri, 8-10 AM.
- **10 Jun 23**—**Cars & Coffee/Fast Lane Classic Cars**, 427 Little Hills Industrial Blvd, St Charles, 8-10 AM.
- **11 Jun 23**—**Boeing Sports Car Club Autocross No. 3**, Family Arena, St Charles. Show around 9-9:30, \$50 for six runs. For more information or to get on the email list, contact Racer Steve at sshab@yahoo.com.
- **11 Jun 23**—**St Louis European Auto Show**, at Mini of St Louis, 40 Sunnen Dr, St Louis. Registration now available online, \$10 per vehicle, proceeds benefit Arc St Louis. Call up <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-st-louis-european-auto-show-hosted-at-mini-of-st-louis-tickets-358597042407>.
- **12 Jun 23**—**MG Club of St Louis meeting/picnic**, Kirkwood Park, 5:30-7 PM. Bring a side dish.
- **17 Jun 23**—**Cars & Coffee/Amp Up**, 13901 Manchester (Home Depot/Fresh Thyme shopping center), 8-11 AM.
- **18 Jun 23**—**SCCA autocross/Solo II Event 3/Charity Event**, Family Arena. Event fee \$55, plus a \$15 weekend membership for non-SCCA members; online pre-registration is \$45. For more info, monitor <https://solo.stlscca.org/>.
- **18 Jun 23**—**MG Club of St Louis drive to Silky's Frozen Custard**, 16043 Manchester Rd, Ellisville.
- **18 Jun 23**—Horseless Carriage Club of Missouri annual **Fathers Day Car Show**, at the National Museum of Transportation. Details to follow.
- **24 Jun 23**—**Cars & Coffee/Holman Motorcars**, 1 Arnage Dr, Chesterfield Valley, 10 AM-12 Noon
- **24 Jun 23**—**21st Annual Pacific Car Show & Block Party**. Registration 8 AM-noon, Block Party 3-11 PM. Food, drink, craft vendors, fireworks, live entertainment. Info at www.pacificmo.org.
- **24 Jun 23**—**Caffeine & Chrome**, Gateway Classic Cars, 1237 Central Park Dr, O'Fallon, Illinois, 9 AM-12 Noon. No admission fee, come on in and have donuts and coffee.

(Continued on page 2)



AUSTIN-HEALEY Never confuse a sports car with a plaything. Not that you'd ever be likely to with the Austin-Healey 3000. This car commands respect, from the man who drives it and anyone else around. Under that familiar long sloping bonnet is a six-cylinder, 150bhp engine. Nothing hairy or violent about it. Simply smooth and seemingly endless power. For this, above all, is a motor car for motoring. Take it where you will, the miles flick by with a breathtaking lack of fuss and effort. What else could you expect? It's an Austin and a Healey—and an unmistakably individual member of the BMC team. **Stop Press:** New Sprite MkIV. More powerful, 1275 cc engine. New integral hood.

More cars to choose from—more in the car you choose

Note: Some club events restrict participation to club members only, primarily for national/chapter insurance reasons. If interested in joining in on a drive or other event, we recommend you contact the club's event coordinator in advance for details.

In Print

We're going to go back and bit for a look at the March *Classic & Sports Car*; you may be inclined to track down a copy. The cover article offers up "Top Sports Car Bargains;" the list, by decade, includes the **MG TD**, **Morgan Plus 4**, **MGC**, **TR4A** and **Corvette C4**, along with five other cars. Farther along, the editors' picks for the top 10 luxury compacts. This article offers up the Panther Rio (based on the **Triumph Dolomite**), Austin Seven Swallow (Swallow, as in Standard Swallow, the predecessor of **Jaguar**), Radford Mini de Ville and seven other options.

Continued on pg 2



- 24 Jun-2 Jul 23—Great Race 2023**, St Augustine, Florida to Pueblo, Colorado. Closest points of approach to St Louis: 28 June, lunch in Eureka Springs, Arkansas with overnight in Joplin, Missouri. Info at www.greatrace.com/.
- 25 June 23—Charity Car Show for Ava Kern**. At Westpark Bowl/Columbia City Saloon, 1101 Valmeyer Rd, Columbia, Illinois. Registration 8 AM-12 Noon, \$20 to show, \$10 to display. Thirty-five classes, specialty awards, 50/50 and baskets. All funds will go to Ava's family at the awards ceremony. For more info, call John at (618)444-4146.
- 30 Jun 23—National Corvette Day**, <https://nationaltoday.com/nation-corvette-day/>.
- 1 Jul 23—Boone Trail Corvette Club 'Vette Display**, Lou Fusz Chevrolet, 5120 North Service Rd, St Peters. 10 AM-2 PM, lunch and soft drinks provided. For info, call Bob Williams (636)795-5517.
- 1 Jul 23—Cars & Coffee West/SunRise Church**, 7116 Twin Chimneys Blvd, O'Fallon, Missouri, 8-10 AM.
- 3 Jul 23—10th Annual Twin Oaks Presbyterian Car Show**, 1230 Big Bend Rd @ MO 141. Registration 9 AM-Noon, judging 1-2 PM, awards at 2. Top 15 Pick Awards, People's Choice Award. Entry fee is canned goods or non-perishable food items to restock the church food pantry. Feel free to stick around after the show for the 9:15 PM fireworks display from City Park. For more info call Gary at (636)225-5625. Please, no alcohol and no burnouts.
- 4 Jul 23—Wentzville 4th of July Parade**, Boone Trail Corvette Club will participate. Details to follow, monitor <https://www.boonetrailcc.com/>.
- 8 Jul 23—Cars & Coffee/Fast Lane Classic Cars**, 427 Little Hills Industrial Blvd, St Charles, 8-10 AM.
- 15 Jul 23—Jaguar Association of Greater St Louis drive to Country Classic Cars**, details to follow, monitor <https://www.jagstl.com/events/>.
- 15 Jul 23—Cars & Coffee/Amp Up**, 13901 Manchester (Home Depot/Fresh Thyme shopping center), 8-11 AM.
- 22 Jul 23—Cars & Coffee/Holman Motorcars**, 1 Arnage Dr, Chesterfield Valley, 10 AM-12 Noon
- 23 Jul 23—Boeing Sports Car Club Autocross No. 4**, Family Arena, St Charles. Show around 9-9:30, \$50 for six runs. For more information or to get on the email list, contact Racer Steve at sshab@yahoo.com.
- 23 Jul 23—Boone Trail Corvette Club drive to the Grissom Center and Space Museum**, Bonne Terre. Meet at the park and ride at MO 94 and I-64/US 40 at 9:45, cars depart at 10:00. Lunch location TBD, admission fee at the museum \$9.
- 27 Jul 23—MG Club of St Louis RUBCO**, west county Uncle Bill's Pancake & Dinner House, 14196 Manchester Rd, 9:30 AM-11 AM.
- 29 Jul 23—Caffeine & Chrome**, Gateway Classic Cars, 1237 Central Park Dr, O'Fallon, Illinois, 9 AM-12 Noon. No admission fee, come on in and have donuts and coffee.
- 5 Aug 23—Cars & Coffee West/SunRise Church**, 7116 Twin Chimneys Blvd, O'Fallon, Missouri, 8-10 AM.
- 12 Aug 23—Cars & Coffee/Fast Lane Classic Cars**, 427 Little Hills Industrial Blvd, St Charles, 8-10 AM.
- 13 Aug 23—SCCA autocross/Solo II Event 4**, Family Arena. Event fee \$55, plus a \$15 weekend membership for non-SCCA members; online pre-registration is \$45. For more info, monitor <https://solo.stlscca.org/>. Event fee \$55, plus a \$15 weekend membership for non-SCCA members; online pre-registration is \$45. For more info, monitor <https://solo.stlscca.org/>.

St Louis Car Shows and Cruises: www.stlouiscoachmen.com/car-shows-special-events

In Print (Continued from page 1)

Other standouts from that group, possibly for the wrong reasons, include the Aston Martin Cygnet (based on Toyota's iQ city car) and the legendary (?) Cadillac Cimarron.

The May issue of C&SC has another entertaining cover article, "Game Changers," which presents a number of vehicles from 1948 which set standards for subsequent cars; they include the **Jaguar XK120** and **Land Rover**. The editors follow up with a list of ten failed British concept cars, including the **Triumph Lynx**, Jaguar's 2000 **F-Type** proposal and **MG EX-E**. Auto Analyst Quentin Willson lists his smart buys for 2023 in the June edition of *Thoroughbred & Classic Cars*; they include the **BMW 3.0 CSI** and **BMW E39 M5**.

Moving right along, April's *Octane* incorporates a multi-page feature on a 1955 **Tojeiro-MG** sports racer. The April edition of *Car & Driver* provides a two page evaluation of the 2023 **BMW M4 CSL** and 2023 **BMW M3 Competition xDrive**. Towards the back, a road test summary with stats on a number of BMWs, Corvettes and a large number of other vehicles. May's issue of C&D has a cover article on three new **Corvettes**: the 2025 Twin-Turbo ZR-1, 2026 1000hp, all-wheel-drive Corvette Zora...and a Corvette SUV (yes, you read that right). Photos and details are in the "Twenty-Five Cars Worth Waiting For" feature, which also includes info on the 2025 **BMW M5/M5 Touring Wagon**. Towards the back, the results of the long-term test of a 2022 **BMW M3**. Finally, in the way back portion of the magazine, an extended, multi-page advertisement by Mazda on the new CX-90. The presentation on the SUV is interspersed with several older C&D articles, including a September 1989 article on the **MX-5**, "The Return of the Honest Sports Car."

One of the truly fun aspects of the sports/collectible/special interest vehicle hobby is perusing car magazines, web pages, classified ads. You never know what you're going to turn up; it might be a car that brings back fond (or, less-than-fond) memories or something that particularly intrigues you.

Case in point: Mecum Auction's announcement for their 2021 event in Monterey, California. One of number of auto-related activities held every August in Monterey – including the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance and the Rolex Monterey Historics at Weather Tech Laguna Seca Raceway – the auction typically features all sorts of desirable vehicles and substantial money changes hands. For example, the 2021 auction at the Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel rang up sales totaling \$57.4 million. The top-selling car? A 2014 Ferrari LaFerrari, at \$3.41 million.

Somewhat farther down on the scale was this 1967 Austin-Healey GT Coupe. Aha, what's this? A final, 3000-based project by Donald Healey and the gang prior to the demise of the legendary "Big Healey?" No, it was actually a kit car, albeit a very well built and detailed kit car consisting of a Fiberfab Jamaican with AH 3000 engine and running gear.



Photo: Mecum Auctions

Warren "Bud" Goodman established Fiberfab Incorporated in Santa Clara, California, in 1964 for the purpose of manufacturing fiberglass bodies suitable for use on TR3, Austin-Healey and Volkswagen chassis. The models included the Jamaican, Aztec, Avenger GT/Valkyrie (a GT40 lookalike...well, mostly), Migi (an MG TD lookalike) and several other models. After

Goodmann died in '69, the company was tied up in legal wranglings; in 1971, the company changed hands and in 1974 ATR acquired Fiberfab. The name now lives on as a subsidiary of Classic Motor Carriages, although production of the sports car kits ended several years ago.

So let's say you're at the Mecum auction in Monterey and you're in a bidding mood. Here's what you

get, per Mecum's announcement: the car's a "Unique 2-door coupe body built in 1967...factory assembled car" (presumably, built ready-to-run by Fiberfab). It came with the "Healey big 3000cc 6-cylinder engine," four-speed manual transmission with overdrive, front disc brakes, finned aluminum oil pan, dual Vitaloni mirrors, stainless steel exhaust "...with Monza dual tips," and "special specification 60 spoke wire wheels with new Vredestein radial tires." Mecum also advised the car had just undergone a frame-off restoration and was finished in "Aston Martin light green metallic paint." The car also carried the donor Healey's builders plate with VIN BN4LO30590.



Photo: Mecum Auctions

Again, from the photos, the resulting vehicle was a very high-quality build, apparently also incorporating the Austin-Healey's dash and gages. Would the GT be welcome in the Austin-Healey line at the annual All British Car & Cycle Show? No telling, but someone at the auction found the car highly desirable. According to Mecum, it sold for \$68,200.

Not bad for a kit car, eh?



Photos: Mecum Auctions

Sources: "The Daytime Auction: Monterey," Mecum Auctions, n.d.; "Fiberfab Inc. History," *Fiber Classics*, n.d.; Dean Larsen, "Fiberfab Jamaican II," Rare Car Network, 3 April 2018.

The Fun of Driving is Back! Assemble Your Own Custom...



MIGI II

The revival of a classic... A memory from your past... English... individual... A standard by which others are measured.



Aztec 7

From the future... An aerodynamic wedge... A racer on the road... A sports car... A statement of your taste... Your personal perfection... An investment in your future... A luxury you deserve.



Avenger

Fast... Sleek... Unchallenged... A sculptured, functional, expression of your individuality... A statement of your taste... Your personal perfection... An investment in your future... A luxury you deserve.



JAMAICAN

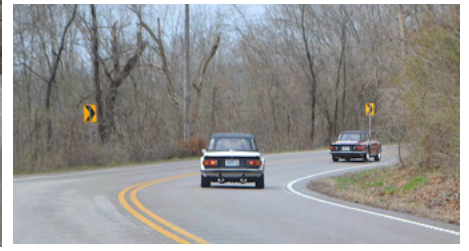
Classic... Elegant... Sophisticated... An automobile that will always be in style... Marked by the creative contours you've grown accustomed to... Convertible doors... roll-up side windows... plush interior... and much, much more.



Source: Fiber Classics

Featured Events

Winery Drive SLTOA—25 Mar 23



Featured Events continued

The Place Tour
Boone Trail Corvette Club—1 Apr 23



Photos courtesy of Boone Trail Corvette Club

Cecil Kimber Birthday Picnic & Drive

MG Club of St Louis—2 Apr 23



Photos by Andy Ackerman



Above: Classy car (1940 Buick Limited) with owner Mr William F. Hall.

Featured Events continued



Diamond Mineral Springs Dine-Out

Boone Trail Corvette Club—16 Apr 23



Photos courtesy of the Boone Trail Corvette Club

Tech Session 4

MG Club of St Louis—17 Apr 23

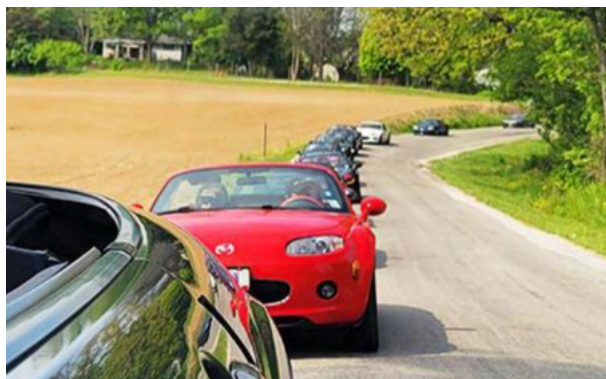


Photos by Andy Ackerman

Featured Events continued

Run to Chester/Missouri Veterans Memorial

Gateway Miata—29 Apr 23

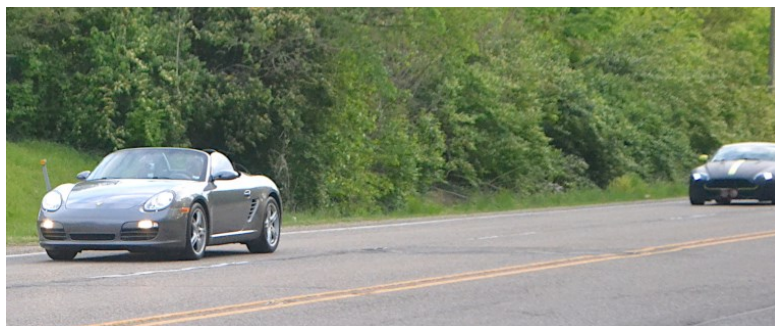


Photos courtesy
of the Gateway
Miata Club



Tulips By Night Rally

St Louis Region SCCA—5 May 23



Featured Events continued



No, these two in the Model A didn't do the rally...pity!

← Majors Racing St Louis Region SCCA —6-7 May 23



Featured Events continued

Friday Night at the Sonic

26 May 23



Photo by John Lore



JL



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