# Hask-Healey Sor

#### December 2009

#### **NEWSLETTER**

## Nash healey registry Update

We have very little to report on the Registry in this edition.

We are still sitting at a total of 338 known Nash Healeys. Thanks to those of you who have taken the time to send in tour information. We appreciate your input and thanks to you, we have validated a number of additional vehicles. Every one counts.

We would urge those of you who have not registered to please take a moment and complete the form at the end of this newsletter or simply email your information to jbrookes@moradnet.ca

The vehicle numbers are being matched to the production numbers to create the Registry. Please be assured that your information will be held in confidence.

Once you are registered, you can choose to be part of the online information sharing or you can choose to be part of the group that only receives information via the newsletter.

If you are currently registered and would prefer to opt out of the regular online group but still receive newsletters, please let me know.





Many Thanks to Bob Segui of Santa Maria, CA for adding a seasonal touch with this photo of his 1953 Nash Healey Coupe.

## 2010 Healey Rendezvous



The Austin Healey Club of Oregon is hosting the 2010 Healey Rendezvous. This event will be held June 28th to July 2nd in Eugene, Oregon. It would be great to see a number of Nash Healeys there. For additional information; <a href="http://healey-oregon.org/rendezvous-2010">http://healey-oregon.org/rendezvous-2010</a>

## Nash healey newsletter

This Newsletter is produced to promote interest in the Nash Healey Registry and to create a sense of connection among Nash Healey owners.. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition. This newsletter is only possible if we have items of interest to include. Please continue to send your photos, articles and ideas to <a href="mailto:jbrookes@moradnet.ca">jbrookes@moradnet.ca</a>. The next newsletter will be sent in March 2010.

## Finding a lifelong friend in the 1953 Nash Healey roadster

Contributed by JIM WALTON







The car that is most special to me is a 1953 Nash Healey roadster - one of only 100 built that year. The original purchaser was a prominent San Francisco doctor who, weather permitting, drove it to the hospital daily for many years.

Upon his death, my wife and I purchased that Nash Healey from the doctor's grandson. I then started a three-year total restoration to bring the car back to like-new condition using the original exterior and interior colors, as well as all of the original mechanical components. I completed most of the restoration work in my garage.

Since finishing the car in 2001, we have shown it many times at car shows in states across the country as well as here in California, and we have won a lot of best-of-show and first-in-class awards.

Having owned the vehicle for about nine years now, my wife and I have driven it more than 10,000 miles and the car has never let us down. Rarely does a mile go by without another driver or pedestrian giving us the thumbs up or honking in appreciation.

The Nash Healey first grabbed my attention when I was 13 years old, working in my father's Nash automobile dealership in Newton, Kansas. I mostly swept floors and dusted the parts bins, but that day I rode in a new Nash Healey roadster with the company representative, who took me down the highway at very high speeds - I was scared half to death.

Prior to the introduction of that model, the Nash brand name was primarily associated with good fuel economy but not performance, so fellow students and friends never showed much respect for my father's choice in autos. That definitely changed with the introduction of the Nash Healey.

Then and there, I decided that someday I wanted to own one of these roadsters. Several times, tears have come to my eyes while driving our Nash Healey onstage to receive awards it has won. It's not only the emotion of the event that brings on these tears, but also the memories of working on cars with my father in our backyard garage, which had been converted from a chicken house.

My wife and I mostly drive this car on California back roads. It's an understatement to say that we are fortunate to have so many of the most beautiful back roads, from the Pacific to the Sierras. I love driving the car fast, hearing the exhaust note and the wind rushing by us.

Over the years, I have met many other Nash Healey owners, and I always offer them my years of experience gained from working on my own car and successfully driving it for so long.

I once made the acquaintance of a well-known, local auto collector who drove to my home in his Nash Healey with an unidentifiable engine knock. When I heard him pull into the driveway, I walked outside, calling him by his nickname and asking when he was going to get the harmonic balancer fixed on his car. He was stunned that I knew his name and could identify his problem without even looking at it!

The two of us became the best of friends and remained so right up until his passing. Several times since then I have also helped the people who purchased my friend's Nash Healey, when they've had mechanical problems. I still think of my friend every time I see his vehicle.

I plan to keep my car as long as I live. Even when I can no longer drive my Nash Healey, I will dust it and polish it, remembering all the joy it has brought into my life

## Online Car Show Winners From Steelton

In a recent first ever online car contest by ABC27 in PA, registered owner Paul Supan won out over all the muscle cars with his 1953 Nash Healey roadster.

This car has been in the Supan family for over 50 years. Paul's Dad spotted this car and bought it in 1958. It was already in rough condition. In the late sixties, Paul and his father installed a Packard V-8 and the car was Paul's daily driver until 1972.

A total restoration to return the car to it's original configuration was begun late in 2004 when Paul retired. This was a three and a half year project for both Paul and his wife Roni. Paul spent innumerable hours in the garage throughout the project while Roni was his helping hand as well as responsible for the upholstery and accessories.







The car was destined to spend over a year these jack stands. The under carriage was finished, rear end and transmission rebuilt, brake and fuel lines fabricated, and the body was in prime before it was to get back on wheels. Next is a picture of the engine compartment shortly after the Packard V8 was removed. Steering box is moved to the left, as is the clutch, firewall is moved back, battery box and louver panel are gone. The Packard bell housing is still visible. The third picture is the engine compartment as it looks today. This is a 55 Le Mans Ambassador that spent over 40 years in a Pa. Junkyard.

This is what it looked like at the end of 2008, its first year on the road. In September of 2007 it became roadworthy (no top or hubcaps) and a few hundred "shakedown" miles were run before bad weather. Starting in the spring of 2008, it attained an AACA First Junior, Senior, and was the AACA 2008 National Award Winner for the Discontinued Automobile. Additionally, it was honored at numerous local shows and was invited to Amelia Island and the Glenmore Gathering. At this time, it has been driven over 3500 miles.



Paul has carefully documented this restoration with pictures he will share with others to help in their restoration project.

#### Items for sale

1952-54 Nash Healey Roadster Windshields\$695.001953 Nash Healey Coupe back Windshields\$695.001953 & 1954 Nash Healey Coupe Windshields\$695.001954 Nash Healey Coupe back windshield weatherstrip.\$450.00All Nash Healeys extended front suspension caster adjuster\$350.00All Nash Healeys front stabalizer bar. (3 times stiffer)\$395.00

Contact Jim Walton <a href="mailto:nshjw@aol.com">nshjw@aol.com</a> or Dennis McAllister denmca@comcast.net

### **Looking for**

Looking for appropriate radio for our 1954 Nash Healey" Lynn Nash 250 286-1872 Rambler02@Shaw.ca

#### Technical service manual for sale

I have 3 copies of the Nash Healey Technical Service Manual Supplement 1952-1953, that were reprinted a few years ago. I well sell them for \$25.00 each, free shipping in the U.S John Gumbinger Lake Stevens, Washington jpgumby@comcast.net

#### **Looking for**

Need logo for Panel Craft. This is the company that made the body for the 1951 Nash Healey Also need transmission mounts.

Bob Segui 1953NH@gmail.com

# Looking for Parts for 1953 Nash Healey Coupe

.Rear trunk logo, and also rear trunk handle and an original horn switch..
hervé arnone-demoy
E-mail Address(es): e-a-d@menara.ma

#### Looking for Parts for 1951 Nash Healey

Instruments: Oil pressure, Temperature, Ammeter and Fuel gauges.

Steering wheel (any, 1951 to 1954)

Victor Milke

vmilkeg@paniplus.com.mx



#### a Holiday Wish

May all the loys of the Season be with you and yours throughout this special time of year.

Our very best wishes for a

Happy and Healthy 2010,



PO Box 6452 Hinton, Alberta Canada T7V 1X7 Phone 780- 865-7066.

Year
Body Style
Body Number
Chassis Number
Motor Number
Condition
Special Info or History
Name
Address
Email
Phone
Please complete this form and email to <a href="mailto:jbrookes@moradnet.ca">jbrookes@moradnet.ca</a>
or send by regular mail to the above address