



Volume 32, Number 1

Healey Enthusiast

January/February 2021



Last Healey Ride of the Year

This Healey Blue BJ8 was spotted in a Rosedale parking lot at 2 PM on December 20th. It was in the mid-40s on this afternoon, and this Healey owner decided to take a top-down drive to the mall. Not sure who the driver is. Personalized plate read "CRNIVAL".

Photo courtesy of Geoff Rossi.

Upcoming Events

Most suspended until further notice due to COVID-19

Sun-Fri	May 16-21	Conclave 2021, Big Bear Lake, California
Thurs-Sun	June 10-12	Rendezvous 2021, Kenora, Ontario

Minnesota Austin Healey Club (MAHC)

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Jensen Healey	Jay Jacobson 612-388-8929

Websites

Minnesota:	www.mnhealey.com
National	www.healeyclub.org

PIE

(President's Informal Evening)

Date: Wednesday, TBD
Time: 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00
Place: Joseph's Grill
 140 South Wabasha
 Saint Paul, MN 55107
 651-222-2435

Come and enjoy beverages and/or food with the friendly club members, catch up on news and events, and discuss cars and restorations.

Thank you to those who submitted news, articles, and photos for this issue:

Todd Bjerkness
Dave Hatzung
John Hatzung
Dave Herreid
Dick Leighninger
Dan Powell

Please send submissions before the 15th of the month to:
daphne.walmer@gmail.com

Current and past newsletters:
<http://www.mnhealey.com/mnhealey/newsletter.htm>



HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation. THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST is published 11-12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles that appear in THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST are the opinions of the authors and do not express the position of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club on any matter unless specifically noted. We do our best to ensure accuracy but cannot be held responsible for errors and omissions. Contributions are welcome on any subject related to Healeys, club members, or of general interest to the classic car hobby. Material from THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST may be reprinted in any other publication provided reciprocal article use permission is granted by that publication. Deadline for submissions to the editor is the 15th of the month prior to the next issue. Classified ads are free for MAHC members, \$5.00 for non-members. For display rates contact newsletter advertising. The Minnesota Austin Healey Club Inc. is operating as a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation and is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America, Inc.

President Dave Hatzung's Very Presidential Column

Hello Everyone!

I hope this note finds you all doing well and surviving all the changes we've seen over the last few weeks and months. Mary and I have seen some additional ones ourselves. We just got a place in Boca Grande, Florida. What a change. Very fortunate to have this move (which will be seasonal) happen. I keep getting notes from our esteemed **VP, John Hatzung**, telling me it's snowing like crazy and colder than all get out in Minnesota. We've been here a little over a week, and I am checking out some of the other car clubs down here. There is a Jag club, but not a Healey club per se. But there is a British car club that has 9+ Healey owners, plus a bunch of the other marques/owners. Both clubs meet about an hour south of us, and I will check out those meetings soon. On February 6th there's a car show in Naples called "**Cars on Fifth.**" Let me know if any of you can make it ... lunch is on me 😊! I know our friend **Mike Kartch** (owner of hero-themed cars including the Batman car) will most likely be there.

In spite of the current stalemate of activity, our Board, led by **Dan Powell**, has been "Zooming" and planning some activities for 2021. Also, my brother the VP, **John Hatzung**, has organized a committee to try to put together some car shows/gymkanas/semi "auto-crosses" (made possible by our new insurance program), all geared around having fun with our cars. Thanks to all of you working on that – that is what will keep our club vibrant and attract new members and keep our current ones active.

One last note, and that is I'd like to thank our AHCA president, **Gary Feldman** for all the work and time he put into setting up and filling in the gaps of our insurance program. While he mentions my name in the Healey Marque, a real thank you should go to **Cynthia Adair**, the Commercial/Business insurance guru in my office. She spent hours and hours reviewing insurance programs and coverage, and she worked tirelessly to help Gary put together the best program that could be found. Also, a thank you to the AHCA Board, and especially our Minnesota Club's national delegate **Eileen Wetzel**, for their assistance and approval of the new program.

As always, my best to you all. Stay well, and may your cars never spring a leak.

Dave (Mario) Hatzung

Election news!

Given the unique times we and our Club have had over the past year you may not have noticed that we our annual election of officers and directors last November did not happen. Now, given the slight glimmer of hope that the end of the tunnel may actually be in sight this year, the Board felt that we should move ahead with holding an election to be ready to go should the world open up again.

The actual election will be held in a couple of weeks, maybe by mail, maybe by email, but not in person. That decision will be made within a week or two.

This article is to let you know of the upcoming election and to offer you the opportunity to take an active role in the operation of the Club. The current office holders (as named in each newsletter) have all graciously agreed to run for re-election, but should you wish to run for any particular office please contact me, Dan Powell, within the next week by email at: dpowell45@comcast.net with AH club election in the subject line.

The Board of Directors, per our by-laws, has three positions to fill with Geoff Rossi, Gary Wetzel, and Clarence Westberg completing their second year. Jim Manion and I are starting our second year. Being a Board member comes with the perk of being involved in guiding the direction the Club takes. The time commitment is minimal, in normal times meetings are held two to four times a year, just before or just after regular club meetings. This year business has been handled via email. We could expand to Zoom calls, but the bottom line is that it isn't that time-consuming, but is necessary to the health and strength of our Club. So... we need three current, active members to step up to the plate and put their names in the hat so to speak. Again, just email me within the next week at: dpowell45@comcast.net to place your name on the ballot.

Regards,

Dan Powell
Board Chairman

2021 Driving Events

by John Hatzung

On January 14, 2021, a few members met via Zoom conference call to discuss potential driving events for the 2021 season. **Participants:** Greg and Suzanne Willodson, Rich and Liz Stradther, Dan Powell, and John Hatzung.

Current events for dedicated vintage racing at Road America are mid-May, mid-July and mid-September. Amery has been held at the end of June and August (until the last few years), plus interspersed Vintage Sports Car Racing (VSCR) events.

What kind of events will our insurance allow? No wheel-to-wheel, speed runs or hill climbs. (Waumandee is now a time trial). Minimum helmet standards discourage providing lenders. Would that apply to riders? Rallies are a possibility. We should consult with Clarence Westerberg about this kind of event.

Autocrosses are allowed with a rider. Dave Hatzung can verify this and the cost of the rider. This impacts Amery. Considering the number of newer, high-powered cars, it's hard to anticipate the level of participation without the speed run. Amery runs charge \$500 per event.

COVID remains a concern, especially for the first half of summer, so Amery might be iffy depending on the level of infections and vaccinations.

The addition of an event at the Dakota County Technical College track is attractive and might allow a wider range of driving opportunities and layouts – either a track day or autocross. John will inquire about dates in the latter half of summer. Rich suggested talking to Mike (?) at VSCR – possibly about adding a tech component among other activities that would attract vintage car owners who enjoy driving in a spirited way.

Action items:

- Dave Hatzung will review insurance details and costs noted above.
- John will call VSCR and Clarence to talk about track and rally events.
- John will contact Jim Unger at DCTC about track availability.

Please feel free to continue this conversation over email. Thanks for your interest.

Todd Bjerknæs needs a new kidney

You may know Todd because he organizes the Intermarque Breakfast. He used to drive a Morris Minor wood-paneled Traveler, and now he owns a blue right-hand drive Mini Cooper.

“For the last ten years I have been living with chronic kidney disease (CKD).”

At this point I'm living a normal active life. For the most part I feel fine, even though my doctors say I'm not fine. I'm needing a kidney transplant, I need to let my friends, family and associates know about my condition.

Currently my kidneys are working at about 16 to 20% of normal kidneys. My doctors at the University of Minnesota are saying that I will be needing dialysis or a kidney transplant sooner than later. Thank goodness, I'm not at that point yet. I was recently placed on the active waiting list for a deceased donor kidney, however, that wait time is generally about four to five years, with about 125,000 on the national waiting list. **When a living kidney is transplanted, long-term success is more likely to be attained.**

Here's some basic information about kidney donations:

- We are born with an extra kidney. You only need one to live a full, healthy life.
- The majority of the donor surgery is laparoscopically, with tiny incisions.
- The recuperation period is generally 2 weeks for those with a desk job and 6 weeks for those whose job entails heavy lifting.
- The surgery will be done at the University of Minnesota with the best care in the country.
- All medical expenses will be paid by my insurance benefits.
- Most donors say that if they had another extra kidney they would donate again, and that it is one of the best experiences of their life.

If you or someone you know would be willing to make this type of commitment, please visit the website umnhealthlivingdonnor.org to begin the kidney donation process. Or if you would like to explore this in more detail before you make your decision, you can call the living donor office at 612-625-7010. You can let them know your interests without disclosing my name at that point.

Thanks for considering this endeavor and if you should decline, I certainly understand.

Todd Bjerkenes

1444 Windemere Dr.
Fridley, MN 55421

763-574-9577
763-350-7747

Tbjerknæs46@gmail.com

Article courtesy of Dick Leighninger

Austin-Healey Association of Southern California
presents

CONCLAVE 2021

BIG BEAR LAKE, CA



What is big bear's
favorite wine after a
day at Conclave?

Cab-bear-net.



Save the date for 2021!

www.conclave2021.com

CONCLAVE REGALIA STORE NOW OPEN!

www.conclave2021-regalia.com



***Gear Up!* Check out the online store.**





CONCLAVE 2021 IS ON!

All registrants please note: We have heard questions (and not a few rumors) about Conclave 2021 in Big Bear, CA. The organizers would like to assure you that CONCLAVE IS ON.

We are confident that with the current deployment of the Covid vaccine and preferences being given to our most typical demographic (that's PC speech for "old people"), Conclave can be conducted in a safe and healthy manner. Thank you for registering for Conclave 2021 and we will see you in Big Bear this May.

Steve Kirby, Conclave Chairman, sackirby@pacbell.net, 949 261-8208

AHCA Conclave, 2021 THE LODGE AT BIG BEAR LAKE BIG BEAR LAKE, CALIFORNIA

Sunday May 16 – Friday May 21, 2021

REGISTRATION OPEN

Regalia Now On Sale

WWW.CONCLAVE2021.COM



Memory Lane

compiled by Dave Herreid

In an effort to help Daphne with the newsletter, the ever-helpful Gary Ronning dropped off a little reading material, a collection of past Healey articles saved and organized by Mr. Gary himself. At my feet are two very large boxes of club info, some of which predates our MAHC. Even in the earliest pages there are names attached to people in our current club. You know how kids are warned that the internet never forgets? Well, the same is true in Gary's boxes of Minnesota Healey memories. I suggest we get in our "way-back Healey machine," adjust the rear-view mirror, and buckle up, it's going to be an interesting read.

P.S. Remember a distant event with fondness or dread? Let me know and I'll try to bring light through careful consultation of our Minnesota Healey Journals.

Conclave '76

from the August 1976 Chatter

Well, it's all over and as we had hoped it was a big success. At least that is what everyone told us. It was unanimous that we hold one next year, so planning has already started in that direction.

On Friday afternoon the Healeys started pouring in from New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, North Carolina, Maryland, Virginia, Illinois, Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kentucky and of course Indiana. By Friday night there were about 40 Healeys gathered and about 150 people. The fellowship in the Hospitality Suite on Friday night was something to behold. New friends, lots of Healey talk and, of course, lots of refreshments.

Then on Saturday morning and early afternoon the roar of the familiar Healey exhaust continued until about 250 people and 76 Healeys were gathered for fun and competition. All morning we went from one beautiful car to the next comparing paint jobs, engine compartments, interiors, and just getting acquainted. There were low mileage originals, beautiful restorations and unusual specimens. A sight to behold.

The Rallye started on time with 71 cars in line to traverse the hilly roads of beautiful southern Indiana. Although the roads at times were a bit rough, the scenery more than made up for the discomfort. 71 cars started out and 71 finished, although some were a little late getting back.

Then at 5:00 we assembled for refreshments at the hospitality suite once again while Chuck and Edie Anderson sweated over the Rallye results.

Hey! Did anyone tell Jeannette Blanck and Pat Massimino that the last car had come in.

Between 7 and 8 we migrated to the patio awaiting the word that the food was to be served. Nearly 200 people were served a bountiful BBQ with beef ribs, corn on the cob and other fixings.

After everyone had been fed, the award presentations were made for the Rallye and the various special awards. Then back to the hospitality suite for more fellowship.

Sunday morning the whole group enjoyed the antics of the Gymkhana where navigators directed blind-folded drivers through the pylons and then had to perform other skillful tricks while trying to beat the clock.

We were sorry to see all of you head home. It had been such a fun filled weekend that we hated to see it end.

The questionnaire turned in after the event indicated that the event was a huge success.

The Blancks and Andersons want to thank all of the people who helped us perform some of the administrative functions, run the events which all kept things going. We also want to thank all of you for coming which really made the event a big success. Without you it would have been nothing. We look forward to seeing all of our new found friends again next year, wherever the CONCLAVE may be.

Thank you, *Walt Blanck, Jeannette Blanck, Chuck Anderson, Edie Andersonn*

Kenora, ON June 10-12, 2021

Presented By



Event Sponsors



Activities

- Meet & Greet
- Scenic Driving Tour & Lunch
- Art Gallery & Museum Tour with lunch
- Evening Cruise on the historic M.S. Kenora
- Fun Rallye
- Harbourfront Charity Car Show
- Awards Banquet at the Kenora Recreation Centre

Accommodations

Comfort Inn
1230 Highway 17 E.
807-468-8845



Days Inn
920 Highway 17 E.
807-468-2003

www.rendezvous2021.com



Rendezvous 2021 Update

Your Rendezvous organizing committee co-chairs are continuing to plan for this year's Rendezvous in Kenora, June 10-13. We are assuming that provincial restrictions will be relaxed by then and it will be safe to hold our event. We know, of course, that masks and physical distancing will still be in effect, but most of our cornerstone activities, such as the rally, scenic tour, and car show, are outdoors. The banquet is to be held at the Kenora Recreation Centre in the Arena area where there is lots of space to spread out.

We will make decisions on the other planned activities, such as the Lake Of The Woods Brewery meet and greet, charity wine and cheese, Art Gallery and Museum tour, and the M.S. Kenora boat cruise, as the COVID-19 picture becomes clearer. As a result, we will hold off sending out new registration forms until at least the end of February. If the Canada/US border is still closed to nonessential travel, we will go ahead with a Canadian only event.

The two hotels are accepting bookings:

- **Comfort Inn**, 1230 Hwy 17 E., 807-468-8845 – Prices starting at \$139CND, including a hot breakfast
- **Days Inn**, 920 Hwy 17 E., 807-468-2003 – \$129CND with an indoor pool

Fingers crossed that we get to see you all this June 10-13.

Stay safe,

Ted Moorby – Austin Healey Club of Manitoba
Peter Foreman – Mid-Canada Mini Group
Rob Hawley – British Car Club of Manitoba

Marketplace

Marketplace policy: All ads are free to current members. For non-members, the charge is \$5.00 per month. Ads will be run for three months, after which time the advertiser needs to submit new ad copy. Please inform the editor if your item or items have been sold during the three-month period, so that the ad can be removed.



1966 Austin-Healey Sprite for sale by charity.

Car was donated to the Center for Vision Loss in Allentown, Pennsylvania. 166K miles. VIN: HAN8L53998. Contact Dennis Zehner at (610)433-6018 x 241 or dennis.zehner@centerforvisionloss.org.



1960 AH 3000 BN7 (rare two-seater) for sale by member of the Flatwater AHC in Omaha, NB. Jerry Mimick has owned this car for over 40 years and completed a full restoration in July of 2018. For more information/pictures contact Jerry at (641) 691-6961 or email mimshouse7@Q.com.



1960 Bugeye Sprite for sale: 85-90% restored. Yellow with black interior. All body work done by Fargo's Finest Auto Body. Engine in and running. New wiring harness installed. Reupholstered seats installed. New carpet partially installed. New chrome front and rear bumpers ready to install. Have majority of all other parts to complete restoration. Needs brakes finished and it will be drivable. "Bugeye" Collector Plate. Mechanics manuals. Other books and memorabilia. Professionally framed picture. Bugeye t-shirt and tank top (never worn). Have owned 28 years. Vehicle in Fargo. Lifestyle and activities have changed through the years and I have lost interest in completing the project. \$10,900.00, OBO. If you call, leave a message. I don't answer unfamiliar phone numbers because of all the "robo calls." If you email put Sprite in subject line so I can identify it if it comes in my junk mail.

Brad Grondahl
701.361.9835
bdahl@msn.com

Marketplace (continued)

FOR SALE: Getting desperate—make an offer A set of three 72 spoke wheels with tires. The wheels are not pretty, but functional. I also have five original 60-spoke wheels. Three are mounted with tires. From an unfinished project started in 1992, 32 long, 64 short spokes and 96 nipples together with a spoke wrench (all new in the box). I would like to sell the whole kit and caboodle as a lot. \$150. I have back issues of The Marque and Enthusiast dating back to 1991. Email Barry Wahlberg at geo4bar@gctel.com

If nothing else, the wire wheels would make a great art project or boat anchor.

4 tires and wire wheels for sale: These are from my 1967 BJ8, which I replaced some chrome wheels that I bought from the Wetzels. Best or any offer ... as with the rear exhaust from the same car. Hoping someone cal use them. Dave@hatzunginsurance.com or 952-913-6313.

Literature for the taking: Anyone interested in a 42-year collection (1987-2019) of the Austin Healey Club of America magazine, first called *The Chatter* and then *The Healey Marque*? If so, contact Geoff at (612) 822-7069 or casadirossi@hotmail.com

MAHC Membership / Renewal Form

Minnesota A-H Club Dues ☐ New ☐ Renewal \$20.00
Austin-Healey Club of America Dues ☐ New ☐ Renewal \$50.00
BOTH CLUBS \$70.00

Minnesota A-H Club (Local only) Dues ☐ New ☐ Renewal \$25.00

Name: _____ Spouse: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____
 E-mail address: _____ Receive Newsletter via email? Yes No

HEALEY INFORMATION:

Year _____ Model _____ Color _____ Original Owner (Y/N)____
 Year _____ Model _____ Color _____ Original Owner (Y/N)____

Condition: ☐ Show Quality ☐ Nice & Roadworthy
☐ Could be running with help ☐ Restoration Project

Make checks payable to: MN Austin Healey Club (or MAHC)

Checks covering AHCA membership renewals must reach Jim Kriz no later than **January 1, 2021**, to assure that your information appears in the 2021 AHCA Membership Directory.

Send form and checks to:

Jim Kriz
2000 Kenwood Pkwy.
Minneapolis, MN 55405

MAHC events remain suspended

We hope you and all of your loved ones are safe and healthy. While we know that many of you are following the recommended social distancing guidelines, your MAHC Board and I feel we need to continue to put large club activities on hold. We will keep you posted as to when we can start meeting again.

Take care, stay healthy and maintain a safe distance,

Your President

Dave Hatzung

MAHC Website Update

by Daphne Walmer

During fall semester 2020, assistant professor Daniel Card from the Writing Studies department at the University of Minnesota taught two classes that worked on ideas for the MAHC website. I provided input for that project; my goals are to make the website easy to use for both those who will use it and those who will implement it, as well as giving it a facelift and more contemporary interface.

Card recently showed me some of the many designs developed by the fall students. This spring he teaches a small class that will start where the fall students left off, considering feedback from me. They will all work together on one or possibly two designs. Unlike the fall "asynchronous" classes, this class meets via zoom with everyone at the same time. Tentatively, that will allow the spring class will present their final design or designs via Zoom to all the MAHC members who want to see their ideas.

InterMarque Breakfasts

Saturday morning location:

The 400 Tavern

1300 Industrial Blvd (near I35W)

Minneapolis, MN

Phone: (612) 455-6312

InterMarque Newsletter

Check out InterMarque's multi-marque calendar in their latest newsletter for even more car events!
www.InterMarque.org

