



# The *Healey Enthusiast*

Volume XXI No. 4

April 2010



.....And the Winners are.....!

## **APRIL EVENTS**

WED. APRIL 7  
SAT. APRIL 10  
SAT. APRIL 24

PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING - PIE  
TECH SESSION — PAINT REPAIR  
SPRING ADOPT A HWY. CLEAN-UP

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Minnesota Web Site	<b><a href="http://www.mnhealey.com">www.mnhealey.com</a></b>
National Web Site	<b><a href="http://www.healeyclub.org">www.healeyclub.org</a></b>

**PIE****(PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING)****Date: Wednesday April 7th****Time: 7:00 p.m. (or before)****Place: Fort Snelling Officers Club**

This location is on Hwy. 5 (east of I-494) on the southeast side of the Mpls./St. Paul Intl. Airport. Exit at the Post Road ramp, turn south (east) towards the river and proceed on to the road heading for the park, take the first left and wind around to the Officers Club building.

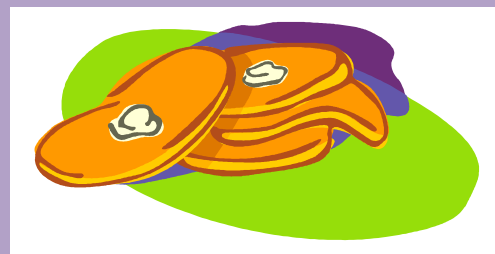
Come and enjoy refreshments and/or food with the friendly club members, catch up on news & events, and discuss cars & restorations.

**Breakfast at the Peg**

Come to this casual event (most) every Saturday morning about 8:00 a.m. for great food, reasonable prices, & lots of Intermarque car enthusiasts. It's a fun way to start off your weekend !

Bring your appetite !

The location: **The Square Peg Diner**  
**2021 East Hennepin Ave.**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55414**

**THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST**

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST, is published 12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles which 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America.

## Presidential Ponderings

By EILEEN WETZEL

### The Locked Door

Wow! Can you believe it? The winter is nearly over and spring is right around the corner. I know that most people feel like we have had a long winter. I enjoy winter and the opportunity it affords us to work on projects indoors, when the weather does not permit activities outdoors. I joined a fitness club in January and have surprised myself at my diligence of regular visits. It seems that each week flies by at warp speed. I still haven't redecorated the bedroom, a project I wanted to complete before the progressive dinner in May; and I still haven't spent as much time on "My Car" as I would like. Gary, however, keeps at it on a daily basis and hopes that I will appear in the garage for more than just a cameo.

Finally, last Sunday, my schedule and time was unspoken for; and I was able to don my blaze orange coverall (I couldn't find any in hot pink) and head out to the garage. As Gary rolled out on the creeper from under the car the smile on his face spoke a thousand words. All I needed was direction. Gary soon dispensed me onto the creeper and under the car armed with rags, mineral spirits, and a wire toothbrush to work on removing the grease and grime from the frame of the car. I have to say, there was a learning curve for me:

- A. Keep hair back and up. It hurts when hair gets tangled in the wheels of the creeper.
- B. Be sure to wear eye protection.
- C. An ipod makes time go faster.

I found a system that seemed to work well for me to remove the grime. Now all I had to do was keep at it and enjoy my music. Time passed quickly, and we stopped for a lunch break and for supper.

What really amused me was how much I was enjoying the work. I loved listening to music I hadn't heard in a long time. It also gave me plenty of time to reflect. I thought about my family and their trials and tribulations. I thought about my sister in Iraq. I thought about my jobs and how I could do them better. I thought about what a wonderful husband I have, and how lucky we are to be so blessed. His hard work has even allowed us to have and enjoy these wonderful rare cars. I thought about how, on a worldly basis, we have so much and also the freedom to enjoy so many things. I couldn't get over how content I was.

The job isn't quite done yet. We still have to get the surfaces a bit cleaner before they are painted. Please, don't worry, this isn't a task I plan to be doing on a regular basis. I'm just hoping I can be of assistance to accomplish other tasks on "My Car" before Spring driving weather arrives. We have a lot to do yet, and Gary said he'd rather I help in the garage than redecorate the bedroom. So if you come in May, the bedroom door will be locked!! I need to go now, time's a wasting!!



# THE PRESIDENTS INFORMAL EVENING

BY EILEEN WETZEL

March attendance was about as high as I've seen. Was it the warmer weather that has our minds thinking about driving our fun cars, or was it the thrill of racing Hot Wheels to victory? Whichever, it was fun to see so many people including new members and visitors.

The meeting was brief and the highlights are as follows:

A sincere thank you to Steve Rixen for hosting a great tech session and to all those who attended.

A thank you to everyone who attended the "How To Talk Minnesotan" play and the following dinner. Special thanks to all that brought wine and bars.

Geoff Rossi deserves applause for stepping forward and volunteering to collect historic MAHC photos from club members that he will assemble for a CD to be submitted to Conclave 2010. See page 7 for details. We all enjoyed looking at the vintage photos that were brought to PIE that evening! Don't forget to sign up for Conclave and Rendezvous!!

Upcoming events were discussed. Please refer to the calendar in the newsletter for updates and additions. Please send Jim Kriz your dues if you haven't already. A five dollar late fee will soon be assessed.

We discussed all MAHC members meeting in an area near Como Park, so they can enter together for the InterMarque Spring Show May 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a short discussion about a possible MAHC brochure to be given out at the show. We do have at our disposal a national AH Club of America brochure.

Welcome new member: David Juntunen ! Attendees: Aaron Courteau, Gary and Eileen Wetzel, Curt Carlson, John Snyder, Jim Kriz, Tom and June Moerke, Tom Politiski, Nancy and Greg Lauser, Carl and Betty Stine, Andy Lindberg, Mike Martin, Jack Stein, Brian Duoos, Kim Rixen, Randy Byboth and Cindy O'Brien, Steve Byboth, Tim Byboth, Brian Walsh, Dan Powell, Michael Manser, Jeff Johnk, Jeff "Speedy" Lumbard, Scott McQueen, Dave Lee, Spook & Britt Johns, and Gary Ronning.

Then it was on to the annual Hot Wheels racing competition. Tom Hazen did his usual great job of setting up the track, timing the runs, and presenting his valued Certificates to the winners. Many people took the opportunity to race their own models or borrow one from the "parking lot" provided by Hazen. Competition was fierce, but competitors were having fun.

Winning Certificates were given to the following people who had the four fastest times:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Jeff Lumbard**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Aaron Courteau**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Mike Manser**
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Randy Byboth**

**Congratulations !!**





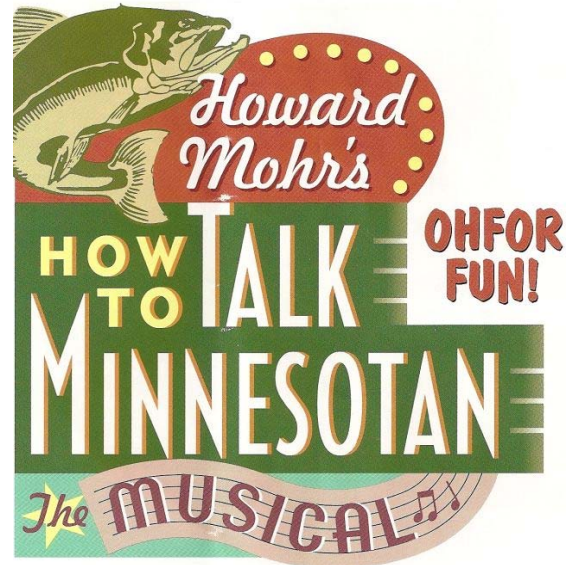
## A “Cultural” Night Out

Editor

On Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup>, a small group of members gathered to attend a very highbrow event called How To Talk Minnesotan. The infamous play (and book) has been around for some time, and it was a lot more fun watching and listening than reading. The cast was comprised of two women and three men, and they were great.

Afterwards, we went to Eileen & Gary Wetzel's lovely home for a “Minnesotan” style Hot Dish Dinner! The hors d'ouvers and refreshments were delicious. Dinner and desserts were divine! This was a very enjoyable way to finish our Winter club activities – because Spring is just around the corner !

Those attending included Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Tom & June Moerke, Kim & Steve Rixen, Betty & Carl Stine, Wayne Soderbeck & Jan Huston, and Gary & Barb Ronning.



### New Members

The Minnesota Austin Healey Club is always anxious to receive new members. This is a very friendly club, and new members are encouraged to attend events to get acquainted with existing members. We all share a love for the Austin Healey automobiles.

Those people that have joined recently are **Fred & Dianne Storti** of Afton, MN, **Paul Isakson** of Amery, WI, **Orval & Jean Faste** of Minnetonka, MN, **Kent & Jane Brown** of Melrose, MN, **Jim & Patty Manion** of Eden Prairie, MN, **Phyllis & Keith Galberth** of Lakeville, MN, **Tim Byboth** of Hudson, WI, and **David Juntunen** of Minneapolis, MN.

**Welcome to All !!**

## High Tea at the Rixen's

Editor

The sun unexpectedly came out to make a beautiful Sunday afternoon on March 7<sup>th</sup>, and a very cordial group of club members met at the Rixen's home for High Tea! Steve was the doorman and Kim was busy cooking up the Tea in the kitchen. The dining room table gradually filled up with an assortment of British style cuisine. There were a variety of open and closed faced sandwiches with delicacies contained on/in them. Scones, bars, and cookies of several types excited our taste buds. Kim had prepared about six types of English Tea, so we proceeded to sample and sip for some time!

The men assembled in the lower level with the Formula One racing on the tube. Much conversation about all types of cars (how unusual) commenced while consuming the treats. Later the Gopher Basketball game came on, but alas we could not steer them to victory.

The ladies started out in the living room, but soon proceeded to the outside deck in back. The day got so nice (60's) that they had to soak up some sun. It looked like they were having a great time for the first Spring outing.

Many thanks to Kim and Steve for hosting – and to all for bringing the delicious fare for the day !

Those attending were Dale & Barb Martin, Chuck & Jean Norton, Spook & Britt Johns, Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Gary & Barb Ronning, Tom & June Moerke, Dwight & Bobbi McCullough, Jack Stein & Caren Labelle, Carol & John Shorrock, Andy Lindberg, and hosts Kim & Steve Rixen.



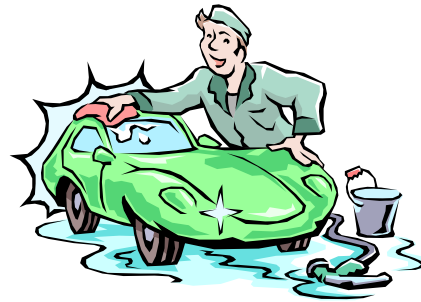


**Tech Session – Care & Repair of the Finish on your Car**

Date: Saturday April 10 \*new date\*

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Home of Gary & Eileen Wetzel  
12605 Resden Rd.  
Plymouth, MN 55441



Refreshments will be served.

**Adopt-A-Highway Spring Clean-up**

It's time again for the spring Minnesota Austin-Healey Club Adopt-A-Highway clean-up near Lake City on **Saturday, April 24**. We'll be looking to surpass the record for club member participation set last spring by 24 Healey enthusiasts. The previous record was 16 people during MAHC's initial clean-up in spring 2005.

Those who turn out will wear new OSHA-approved vests provided by the Minnesota DOT. If a similar number of folks pitch in this spring, we'll make quick work of it, which will leave more time for our drive and luncheon afterwards.

We'll gather at **9 a.m.** April 24 for a brief "rest" at the Veterans' Highway Roadside Park on the north side of Lake City before backtracking to the Villa Maria rest spot to begin the pickup. With your participation, the group this spring can be just as happy as last spring's crew was when it finished in about an hour.



2009 Group

**The latest Video Library addition !**

I saw an ad for the Bill Emerson **Historic Healeys Speed and Beauty** DVD, and I knew the club had to have it. I have been screening this one, and it's fun to see the full historic spectrum of Healey genius. Over time, I have become really attracted to the older Healeys. This video shows the best of them; and Bill describes their qualities and lets us hear their mechanical whirs and hums. Too bad we can't smell the oil, gas, and rubber with our smell-o-vision TVs yet. Let me know when you want to borrow it. I predict a waiting list. (See Jim Wojcik's contact info on page 2)

# MAHC PHOTO PROJECT

By Geoff Rossi

In conjunction with the 2010 Conclave, the MAHC is collecting a photo history to be displayed at Galena in July. Tom Politiski and I have been assigned the responsibility of seeing to our chapter's contribution.

We are sending out this request to all members with photos of past club events. The interest is in "people pictures" not cars, unless the car is unique or of special interest. Shots of Healey family members or other people of Healey history are desirable.

There are a number of ways to get your many photos to us. Send them as snapshots, or digitally on a CD or flash drive to:

Geoff Rossi  
3641 South Dupont Ave  
MPLS MN 55409

Mark them with your name and we absolutely positively guarantee you will get them back.

Also a website has been set up where you can drop them in, and we can retrieve them; and others can add or subtract. It is:

[www.photobucket.com](http://www.photobucket.com)

Username: MNAHC

Password: donaldhealey

If you wish to participate in this, and we encourage that, do not procrastinate. Sort through them now and get them here! If you have any questions – 612 822 7069.



**50 YEARS!**

**July 2004**

Celebrating with **Jim Johnson**  
(center) and his AH 100 that he  
purchased new in 1954.

**Congratulations (again) Jim!**

(and still the proud owner)



# InterMarque SPRING KICK-OFF COMO PARK

10 AM-3 PM • Placement starts at 9 AM  
North Pavilion Parking Lot and Picnic Hill  
1360 Lexington Pkwy. N., St. Paul, MN

RAIN or  
SHINE!



ILLUSTRATION BY:  
MICHAEL JEKOT  
TransportationGuild.com

Open to all **VINTAGE FOREIGN**  
motorcars, motorcycles, scooters  
and vintage racers **1985 and older.**

- Vehicle placement starts at 9:00 am.  
FIRST COME. FIRST PARKED.
- Motoring clubs hoping to park  
together should arrive en-mass.
- Exhibitors are requested to  
PLEASE pre-register for the  
Motorcar Exhibition by  
e-mail to Phyllis Galberth:  
deegalberth@yahoo.com  
BEFORE MAY 15, 2010.

Visit [InterMarque.org](http://InterMarque.org) for more info.

#### EVENT CO-CHAIRS

Phyllis Galberth & Aaron Courteau

#### PREMIER SPONSORS

Minnesota MG Group  
Jaguar Club of Minnesota  
Minnesota Austin-Healey Club  
Citroën Car Club of Minnesota  
Wheels of Italy

#### CO-SPONSORS

Lotus Owners of the North (LOON) • Minnesota MGT Register • Minnesota Triumphs • Quality Coaches • Vintage Sports Car Racing

#### EXHIBITORS' SOCIAL GATHERING

- Please bring your own PICNIC  
and enjoy a spring afternoon with  
vintage foreign motoring enthusiasts  
on Como Park Picnic Hill.
- Food and beverages will also be for sale  
at the Como Lakeside Pavilion  
Coffee Shop, Black Bear Crossing.

#### SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

- Motoring Club Displays, Vendors & More!
- In addition there are terrific activities  
in Como Park (Zoo, Conservatory,  
Hamm Memorial Waterfalls and more).

# Events Schedule

- April 7 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- April 10 \*\*** **Tech Session** – (Sat) Paint Blemish Repair put on by Carmasters. Location is at the Wetzels home – 12605 Resden Road in Plymouth, MN. See page 7.
- April 24 \*\*** **Adopt a Highway Clean-up** - (Sat) Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Veteran's Hwy. Roadside Park at milepost 80 on US Hwy. 61 – just above Lake City, MN for the Spring Adopt-a-Highway clean up. Arrangements are being made by Greg Lauser. See page 7.
- May 1** **Tech Session** – (Sat) Meet at 12:00 noon at Top Gear – 2401 E. Lake St. - Minneapolis. David Juntunen will be demonstrating. Please offer suggestions on what he should discuss.
- May 5 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice
- May 8\*\*** **Spring Awakening Tour** - (Sat.) Leave at 10:00 a.m. from the Square Peg Diner at 2021 E. Hennepin in Mpls. Caravan east into Wisconsin and eventually end up at a popular new restaurant in Hudson, WI. Tour will run rain or shine. For any questions, Rallymaster Tom Moerke can be reached at 651-402-2153.
- May 14-16** **Vintage GT Challenge** – (Sat.) This will be the weekend for the Spring races at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI.
- May 22** **Intermarque Spring Kick-Off** – (Sat.) The Intermarque Council will again sponsor the Spring car show. It will take place from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm at Como Park/St. Paul. See page 9.
- May 23\*\*** **Three Stop Northwest Metro Progressive Dinner** – (Sun.) We will start at the Ronning's in Buffalo for appetizers, proceed to Wetzels in Plymouth for the main course, and end up at Klein's in Maple Grove for dessert. Details later.
- June 2 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- June 5** **British Sports Car Display** – (Sat.) Meet at 11:00 a.m. at Woodland Hills Winery, 731 County Rd. 30, Delano, MN. Hosted by the MN Triumphs Sports Car Club. Details later.
- June 12** **Amery Competition Run** – (Sat.) Excellent test running of your favorite Sports Car orchestrated by Tom Hazen.
- June 17 - 20** **Rendezvous 2010** - This will be the 20<sup>th</sup> year for the annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The location this year will be in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Get your hotel reservations in early!
- June 18 - 20** **Back to the 50's Car Show** – The annual supersize car show at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. If you want to see tons of fancy cars, here's the place!
- June 27\*\*** **Lynch / Ronning Tour & Picnic** – (Sun.) There will be a driving tour in the southwest metro area ending up at Mike & Gloria Lynch's lovely home for refreshments and dinner.
- \*\* - Denotes an official MAHC club activity**



Steve Rixen is...



**Strictly British**



Parts, Service & Consultation



Email: [scrixen@gmail.com](mailto:scrixen@gmail.com)

Cell: 612-877-1938

729 Paul Burch Drive

Hudson WI 54016

# Events Schedule

<b>July 3 – 4</b>	<b>VSCR Races</b> – At Brainerd International Raceway. Includes Show & Go Drag Races.
<b>July 7 **</b>	<b>PIE Meeting</b> - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
<b>July 11 – 15</b>	<b>Austin Healey Conclave</b> – (Sun.–Thurs.) This year the national AHCA Conclave will be in Galena, Illinois. We should have good representation at this event. Reserve early !
<b>July 15 – 18</b>	<b>Kohler International Challenge.</b> This is the big annual vintage car race event held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. For details, call J.Johnk, D.Powell, R.Stadther, or J. Lumbard.
<b>July 18</b>	<b>Lynch Mexican Picnic</b> – (Sun.) This will be another grand picnic put on by Mike & Gloria Lynch. Always great food in a great setting. Details later.
<b>July 24</b>	<b>InterMarque Movie Night</b> – (Sat.) Join your Sports Car loving friends for an evening at the (outdoor) movies. Arrangements by Kim & Steve Rixen.
<b>July 25</b>	<b>Intermarque Picnic</b> – (Sun.) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
<b>Aug 1 **</b>	<b>Stine / Lauser Annual Country Picnic</b> – (Sun.) Gather at the Stine Farm for their annual Luncheon on the Lawn. Foods are always delicious. Details later.
<b>Aug 4 **</b>	<b>PIE Meeting</b> - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
<b>Aug 14</b>	<b>Brit Fest</b> – (Sat) 9:00 am – 1:00 pm This event has been held at the Ellingson Car Museum on Hwy. 94 near Rogers, MN for the past several years. It's a great place to buy or sell parts and show your car. Sponsored by the MN MG Group.
<b>Aug. 29</b>	<b>Intermarque Picnic</b> – (Sun.) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
<b>Sept. 1 **</b>	<b>PIE Meeting</b> – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
<b>Sept. 10 – 12</b>	<b>Fall Vintage Race Festival</b> - Held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. A great opportunity to see vintage racing up close. Call Jeff J., Dan P., Jeff L., or Rich S. for details.
<b>Sept.11</b>	<b>Wheels 'n Wings</b> – (Sat) 8:00 am 30 <sup>th</sup> Year! Always a lot of cars and a lot of books. Airplanes, a train ride, hot dogs, and friendly people make it an enjoyable day in Osceola, WI.
<b>Sept. 12 **</b>	<b>Healey Morgan Picnic</b> – (Sun.) Enjoy a sunny Sunday afternoon at Herb & Marsha Miller's Bloomington home and browse through Herb's projects and toys. Details later.
<b>Sept. 19 **</b>	<b>Soderbeck-Huston Picnic in the Woods</b> – (Sun.) Come to Wayne's house in the woods for down home cooking and trail games. Details later.
<b>Sept. 25**</b>	<b>Adopt a Highway Clean-up</b> (Sat.) The second of our two clean-ups for the year is to be on this date. Details later.
<b>Sept. 26</b>	<b>Intermarque Picnic</b> – (Sun.) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
<b>Oct. 6 **</b>	<b>PIE Meeting</b> – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
<b>Oct. 16</b>	<b>Fall Color Tour</b> - (Sat.) Be out and enjoy the beautiful Fall colors with our illustrious road event leader – Tom Hazen ! Details later.
<b>Nov. 3 **</b>	<b>PIE Meeting</b> – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>Charity Event</b> – (Sat.) 9:00 – 11:00 am. For Feed My Starving Children. Dale Martin arranges this very worthwhile event each year. It is an enjoyable exercise for a very good cause.
<b>Nov. 20 **</b>	<b>Annual Business Meeting Party</b> – (Sat.) The annual business meeting, election of officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Officer's Club. Details later.
<b>Dec. 1**</b>	<b>PIE Meeting</b> – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
<b>Dec. 4 **</b>	<b>Planning Breakfast</b> – (Sat.) The schedule of events for 2011 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Tom Hazen will select the site.

**\*\* - Denotes an official MAHC club activity**



Minnesota Austin Healey Club  
Gary Ronning, Editor  
1019 Ridge Haven Circle  
Buffalo, MN 55313

## First Class Postage



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### 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 the ad can be removed.

**WANTED** - Big Healey Overdrive Speedometer spindle assembly for 4 speed side shift or center shift transmission. Will consider purchase of complete transmission. Steve Rixen, 612-877-1938 or email to [scrixen@gmail.com](mailto:scrixen@gmail.com) . (3/10)

**WANTED** - Enclosed trailer to rent or borrow for 1 weekend to move a queen bed to Northwestern Iowa. I will tow with my truck. Fully insured with experience hauling trailers. F-150 with 1-7/8" and 2" ball on receiver hitch. Contact Curt Carlson at 612-251-7492 or [mnhealey@gmail.com](mailto:mnhealey@gmail.com) (3/10)

**FOR SALE** – Two Bullet Mirrors – never used - \$40.00 for the pair. Two Distributor Caps – one for BN4-BJ7, one for BJ7 – BJ8. \$20.00 each. Call Gary Ronning at 763-684-4041, email [gtronning@aol.com](mailto:gtronning@aol.com) . (4/10)

**FOR SALE** - BN1 transmission and overdrive for parts. Not complete, but Dr. Ernie opened it up and says lots of good usable expensive parts inside. \$400. Also, two red rolling tool boxes. One Craftsman's - 10 drawers on top and 3 below. \$175. One "Stack-on" (from Fleet Farm) - new, never used - ball bearing slides - 6 drawers on top and 6 on lower unit. \$325. Tom Politiski email to: [Healeymog@Yahoo.com](mailto:Healeymog@Yahoo.com) . (4/10)

**DO YOU NEED PARTS?** - Before you go to Moss, simply email me for a list of various items that I have. There are no major body or engine parts. Geoff at 612 822 7069 or [casadirossi@otmail.com](mailto:casadirossi@otmail.com) . (4/10)