

The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XXIII No. 4

April 2012

'S



GET READY FOR SPRING !!

APRIL EVENTS

WED. APRIL 4	PIE MEETING
SAT. APRIL 14	TECH SESSION
SAT. APRIL 21	THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY
SAT. APRIL 28	MIDWEST MOTOR SPORT

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National	
Web Site	www.healeyclub.org

PIE (PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING)

Date: Wednesday April 4th 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 !

Location: The Square Peg Diner

2021 East Hennepin Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55414



Cover picture compliments of the AHCA Chatter – May 1996

THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation, 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 is 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.

The Steering Column

By Geoff Rossi

"How long have you owned your Healey?" It is a common question amongst owners - whether at a club drive or show, maybe a Conclave or Rendezvous, or just gassing up at a local filling station. It's really a multi-faceted inquiry. There are some who have owned one particular Healey for many years, and for some, many Healeys over many years. In our case, the Rossi's have had their 1967 3000 a long time. It was in 1969 that it joined our family who never thought that it would travel with us for 43 years. 43 YEARS!! Seems like a long time, but I'm going to tell you about something incredible.

In 1994 as the Club's delegate to National, I spoke with someone who mentioned that he had just completed a restoration of a 3000 he had purchased off the showroom floor. The thought struck me that there must be more of these people out there. I approached National with the idea of establishing an Original Owners Registry and to underwrite it. Since then 92 owners have submitted their car info and related stories, and have joined the list. This is a group with a finite number. Non-expanding.

The Minnesota Austin Healey Club has three members enrolled. The most recent is #92 Jim Manion and his 67 MKIII. Purchased locally in Osseo, it has traveled to the East Coast and then some. You can read more on another page of this newsletter. Barry Wahlberg is #3. In 1963 he bought his Olde English White BJ7 from Ted's Sales and Service in Duluth - trading in an MG Midget. He and his wife Georgia are now retired in Alexandria, MN.

The fellow that I believe most likely to be an original owner for the most years is Jim Johnson. He was purposely sought for slot #001. In August 1954, he ordered his BN1 at a long ago forgotten dealership in Seattle. He wanted a black car. This was so early in production that they couldn't promise him that. At the factory they pulled a white one off the line and painted it black. He worked at Boeing and that black 100 was "driven hard and put away wet" after many trips across the big sky of Montana and the flatlands of the Dakotas. Folks, this is 58 years that this Healey has had a single caretaker. FIFTY-EIGHT YEARS!! Congratulations, Jim ! Now, that is Healey History !

[Note: We always welcome new entries to the Original Owners Registry. If there are other people out there who bought their Austin Healey new and still own it, we would certainly love to hear from them. Just email to casadirossi@hotmail.com]

THE PRESIDENTS INFORMAL EVENING

BY EILEEN WETZEL

President Rossi called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Upcoming events were discussed. RSVPs are requested for both the Tech Session and the Sub-Zero Dinner. Both events are at Mike & Gloria Lynch's home.

Tom Hazen gave reports on his hillclimb events for this year. He is still working on the event at Waumandee, Wisconsin. There was a meeting held there recently, and about 15 MAHC members attended to encourage the local town council to allow the event. The local Sheriff is still not in favor. Thanks again to Tom for all his hard work!

Rendezvous 2013 planning is coming up. We need plans to be presented at the Kenora Rendezvous in June of this year. The 2013 Rendezvous will be at Sugar Lake Lodge in Grand Rapids. Eileen Wetzel will be calling a meeting soon.

Members were asked to please check their VHS/DVD collection to see if any MAHC items are hiding there. Some have been checked out in recent years and not returned. Jeff Johnk would like to have the collection complete.

Steve Rixen gave a summary of the rallies being held this year. Members were encouraged to come out and enjoy them. The Coulee Classic Rally will be July 14th, starting in Maiden Rock, WI.

Rich Stadther announced the passing of member Robert (Bob) Youngdahl. He was an active vintage racer for many years. It was agreed to send a Memorial to the U of MN Engineering School in his honor.

Curt Carlson and Greg Lauser talked about the Saving Grace fund raiser that appears in the latest Healey Marque. The club will look at participation when the event nears.

Steve Rixen gave a reminder about the InterMarque Spring Kick Off. Golden Tickets are again available for preferred club parking. Tickets are \$100.00, and it was agreed to send that amount to the InterMarque committee.

Greg Lauser encouraged members to renew their AHCA membership. Gary Ronning presented a ceremonial Hot Wheels Cap to Tom Hazen – Chairman of the Hot Wheels Races ! June Moerke brought sweet treats for all to enjoy. Thank you, June ! The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm....and the Racing began !

Tom set up his famous track, and people began racing. Some brought their own special Hot Wheels car, while others used cars from the selection that Tom had brought. Much cheering and jeering ensued. Tom had his timer going and the results were on the wall. When it was all over, the winners were:

First Place: Ed Raschke Second Place: Geoff Rossi Third Place: Jeff Lumbard Fourth Place: Brian McCullough Congratulations to the Winners !!



Attendees: Jim Klein, Rod Richert, Jack Stein, Byron Peterson, Brian & Jennifer McCullough, Bob Elliott, Curt Carlson, Dan Powell, Jeff Lumbard, Jeff Johnk, Mike Martin, Spook Johns, Scott McQueen, Gary & Barb Ronning, Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Rich & Liz Stadther, Jim Manion, Carl & Betty Stine, Tom & June Moerke, Steve & Kim Rixen, Jim Kriz, Ed Raschke, Wendi Sott, Jan Huston, Geoff Rossi, Greg Lauser, Tom Hazen, and Dave Herreid.



ORIGINAL OWNER AWARDED CERTIFICATE

When Jim Manion bought his 1967 Austin Healey from a dealership in Osseo, MN, he never guessed that 45 years later he would be receiving a certificate lauding his purchase and years of ownership. That's exactly what happened at PIE on February 1st.

The Healey Blue 3000 was acquired from Checkered Flag Imports in Osseo on July 20, 1967. Originally, Jim was trying to decide between the AH, an MGB and a TR4a. At the time he felt the Triumph dealer was attempting a "bait and switch", so he bought the Healey off the Checkered Flag showroom floor.

An experience that Jim relates seems humorous now but wasn't then. Living in North Carolina and driving a night rally, he had the misfortune of sliding off the roadway into a ditch. Two "good-old-boys", quite over the limit and in a very large pick-up truck, stopped and offered their assistance with a heavy-duty chain. He did some fast talking to discourage the help. To this day there remains in his head a cartoon-bubble of the pick-up zooming down the highway with the front bumper bouncing along behind on that chain!

After clocking 60,000 miles, Jim's baby has been undergoing a facelift. Some rusty panels have been renewed, and a soda-blasted body is to be painted in beautiful Healey Blue once again. Hopefully, we will see this one owner car and its caretaker at Club events this year. Jim joins two other MAHC members on the roster of the Original Owners Registry: Jim Johnson (#1) and Barry Wahlburg (#3). There are 92 on the list nationwide.

[Note: If you are the first and only owner of your Healey, you may want to contact me at <u>casadrossi@hotmail.com</u> and get the details on how to obtain a certificate and join this select group.]

Geoff Rossi, Director A-H Original Owners Registry

SUB - ZERO DINNER



By Eileen Wetzel

Four couples were treated to a wonderful SubZero dinner at the Lynch home in March. Mike once again put his fine culinary

skills to work, assisted by Gloria and friend Rhonda. We enjoyed beer, wine, appetizers, and a dinner of salad, seasoned roast chicken, poached cod with a cheese infused white sauce, braised red cabbage, glazed carrots, whole mashed potatoes, and Irish soda bread. In case we had any room remaining, a dessert of a black bottom banana cream pie and coffee were served.

Mike and his sous chefs, once again, truly out did themselves.

Not to be out done by the food, excellent conversation was shared by Dale and Barb Martin, Jeff and Diane Rossi, Steve and Kim Rixen, Gary and Eileen Wetzel, Rhonda Schroeder, and Mike and Gloria Lynch.

Many thanks to the Mike and Gloria!!!

THE LIMIT 10 LIFE AND DEATH ON THE 1961 GRAND PRIX CIRCUIT 100 1 Michael Cannell III. . Twelve 1 Hatchet Book Group Ш copyright 2011 100 Ш 100 Look back to the days of racing margues representing nationalities--think Ferrari red and 10 British racing green. Although vivid descriptions of the idiosyncrasies of the Mille Miglia, the Carrera Panamericana, Le Mans and others will delight, THE LIMIT focuses on the Grand Prix duel 100 between American Phil Hill and German Count Wolfgang von Trips, both racing for team Ferrari. III. Very powerful cars amazingly and appallingly void of the most rudimentary safety features competed on courses where spectators could literally reach out and touch the cars. This was the III. 10 blood sport of the day regularly condemned by the Vatican. III. THE LIMIT follows the rise of Phil Hill and the racers of his era but is not a book about the III. cars they drove. Written by a non car owner for the general public, the author never the less captures the mood of the sport and the times and remains a worthy read, even if the lack of auto 10 Ш and mechanical detail frustrates the enthusiast. 10 Book Review by Rod Richert 10





"New" IRS



Kim Rixen, Mike and Gloria Lynch, Greg Willodson and Dylan the dog.

Tech Session at the Lynch's

By Greg & Suzanne Willodson

Suzanne and I "took the scenic route" (i.e. missed the turn) to get to Mike and Gloria Lynch's house on Saturday, March 24. By the time we arrived, the IRS assembly had already been rolled back under the Jag, and had been lifted back into position. "Birthday Boy" Jeff Flynn of Special Interest Auto Service was on hand again to coordinate the work. There was not a single piece that looked like it had spent any time under a car. Many of the parts were new; springs, shocks, rotors; but others had seen over 45 years of service. Mike confirmed that he spent many hours by the blast cabinet. The result was near-perfection. The Lynch's then served up a delicious lunch to the hungry crowd of about 20 Austin Healey and Jaguar Club members. Big bowls of homemade chicken noodle soup along with ham and cheese melted on ciabatta rolls were just right for the Spring day.

As the tech session was getting wrapped up, the Lynch's were doing their best to casually convince Jeff Flynn that he needed to get home. Jeff usually enjoys a few refreshments with the Lynch's after these sessions, but today was special. A surprise 50th birthday party had been planned for Jeff, to be held at the Lynch's the same evening as the Tech Session. Jeff's teenage daughter placed a phone call imploring her dad to rescue her from "car trouble." This was all part of the plan to get him out of the house for a few hours, so the Lynch's and Jeff's wife could cook and prepare for about 50 guests - set to arrive in just a few short hours. We all did our part to try and get Jeff to head home to take care of the his daughter's car emergency, without arousing suspicion. We trust everything went according to plan and that the evening was as successful as the tech session! Thank you Mike and Gloria!

MN Austin Healey Club members in attendance: Mike & Gloria Lynch (hosts), Scott McQueen, Steve & Kim Rixen, and Greg & Suzanne Willodson



Нарру 50th Birthday, Jeff !

The John Bowlander Award Outstanding Driver of the Year VSCDA's oldest award.

John was an excellent driver and our Chief Driving Instructor during the 1980s. He joined VSCDA just after it was organized and became a sought after mechanic and driving instructor. He raced a "scruffy" Porsche 911 that was very fast. John died of cancer in 1992 while still in his 30s.

The 2011 John Bowlander Award was presented to Jeff Johnk. Jeff races an Austin Healey 100-6 and hails from Lakeville, MN



John Houlton (left) presents Driver of the Year Award to Jeff Johnk Congratulations, Jeff !!

20TH ANNUAL VINTAGE FOREIGN CAR SHOW



CLUB

- This is a FREE* event. Open to 1991 OR OLDER, FOREIGN motorcars, motorcycles, scooters, and vintage racers.
- FIRST COME FIRST PARKED. Placement starts at 9 a.m. Space is limited. Parking staff will be on hand to direct. Clubs wishing to park together need to arrive en-mass.
- Visit InterMarque.org for additional show information.

*A]] participants must bring a non-perishable food item to donate.

RAIN OR Shine

SAT

10ам-Зрм

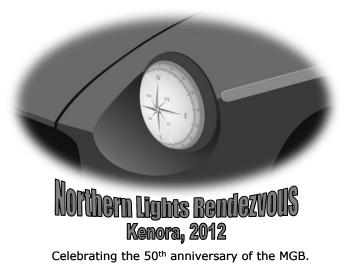
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2012 RENDEZVOUS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

http://www.britishcar.ca/rendezvous/



If you haven't already made plans to do so, come to **Kenora, Ontario June 14 - 17, 2012** for a memorable **Northern Lights Rendezvous** experience and a great Lake of the Woods holiday.

Better yet, come early, or stay a few days longer and enjoy the many adventures that Kenora has to offer on the water's edge in the heart of some of the more breathtaking lake country around.

Visit our event web site at <u>http://www.britishcar.ca/rendezvous/</u> to learn more about Kenora, look over our 2012 Rendezvous program, investigate our event listings and get local hotel information.

For the first time ever, you can use the convenience of our secure web site at <u>http://www.britishcar.ca/rendezvous/</u> to sign-up for your events and pay for your registration and tickets using your credit card or your PayPal account.

If you **register on-line before May 1st**, you'll be entered into our Early Bird Draw for a chance to win 3 free nights in the 'Vice Regal Suite' at our host Kenora hotel, the 'Best Western Lakeside Inn', during your Rendezvous stay.

Register now! Our Lake of the Woods boat cruise and the Saturday evening Awards Banquet featuring Dennis Gage from 'My Classic Car' have a fixed capacity. You can guarantee your seats if you register early.

Need even more information? Contact our 2012 Rendezvous co-chairs: Brian Lanoway at <u>blanoway@shaw.ca</u>, or Tom Struthers at <u>tstruthers@gmail.com</u>.

See you in Kenora next June!

The 2012 Northern Lights Rendezvous Committee.

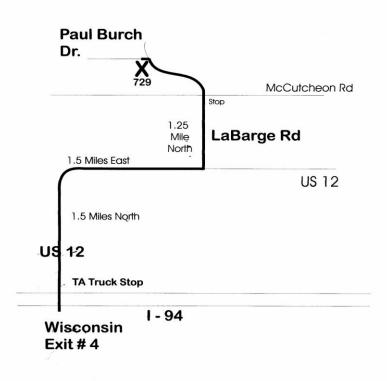


Tech Session

Saturday April 14 - 10 AM to Noon Steve Rixen's Shop 729 Paul Burch Drive, Hudson, WI 55126

Subjects:

Differential Tech Ongoing restorations and work What do you want to talk about? Coffee and Donuts provided



Accidental Death of Bob Youngdahl

Minnesota racer and Austin Healey owner Bob Youngdahl died on February 21. Bob was fatally injured in an accident while unloading his race car in Sarasota, Florida, after racing at Road Atlanta. Apparently, the cable from a winch to the tailgate on his trailer had come loose on the trip. When he unlatched the tailgate, it struck him, inflicting fatal injuries. Our sincere condolences go to Bob's family and friends. Here ye! Here ye! By proclamation: All loyal MAHC subjects are hereby invited to the birthday celebration in honor of Her Royal Majesty

Elizabeth, the Queen of England.

Festivities will begin on: Saturday April 21, 2012 at 2:00pm

The place of revelry and debauchery will be: 12605 Resden Rd. No. Flymouth, MN 55441



Hosted by:

Suzanne Willodson Kim Rixen Eileen Wetzel (The Three Mouseketeers?)

Inquiries: Call 763-541-9571 - Gary and Eileen

OPEN HOUSE/TECH SESSION

AT MIDWEST MOTOR SPORTS

APRIL 28TH, 9AM - 2PM, NOON LUNCH

GET YOUR CAR OUT OF STORAGE AND JOURNEY TO SAUK RAPIDS FOR LUNCH AND TECH SESSION

DOOR PRIZES AWARDED AFTER LUNCH

MIDWEST MOTOR SPORTS 728 8TH AVE. S. SAUK RAPIDS, MN 56379 320 251-0676 danielmms@aol.com

Events Schedule

April 4 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
April 14 **	Tech Session – (Sat) Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Rixen's garage in Hudson. See p.12.
April 21 **	The Queen's Birthday – (Sat) Hosted by the Three Mouseketeers. See p. 13.
April 28	Midwest Motors Sports Tech Party – (Sat) Sauk Rapids, MN. See page 13.
May 2 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
May 5 **	Adopt a Highway Clean-up/ Spring Awakening Drive - (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.
May 12	InterMarque Spring Kick-Off – (Sat) The InterMarque Council will again sponsor
	the event at a new location in downtown Osseo, MN. See page 9.
May 18-20	Vintage GT Challenge – (Fri - Sun) This will be the weekend for the Spring races at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI.
May 26**	SpringTour - (Sat) Tom & June Moerke will arrange a Spring drive and end up at the Laurel Inn in Wisconsin.
June 6 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
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Events Schedule

July 1** July 11 ** July 13–15 July 22 July 28 July 29	 Stine/Lauser Drive & Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 Always a favorite with the Tour first and lunch on the lawn afterwards. PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. Note second Wednesday this month only. Kohler International Challenge.(Fri-Sun)This is the super 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. Lynch Mexican Fiesta – (Sun) Meet at 3:00 pm at Mike& Gloria Lynch's home. Always great food in a great setting. Healey Hillclimb XI – (Sat) Tom Hazen has scheduled another beautiful Hillclimb at Afton Alps Ski area. Watch for more information. Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park
August 1 ** August 4 ** August 11 August 12**	in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments. PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. Ambli Duluth Picnic (Sat) Take a drive to Carlton, MN to enjoy Fred's hospitality. Brit Fest – (Sat) 9:00 am – 1:00 pm In Hudson, WI.Sponsored by the MN MG Group. Progressive Dinner – (Sun) – This year Rixen's, Boyer-Carlson's, and Fosdick's will be
August 25 August 26	 hosting this previously well attended event. Amery Airport Autocross – (Sat) Tom Hazen will hold the second run of the summer at Amery, WI. Watch for more info. Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
Sept. 5 ** Sept. 7–9 Sept. 9 Sept .22 Sept.23 Sept. 30	 PIE Meeting – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. Fall Vintage Race Festival- 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. City Lakes Parkway Tour – (Sun) Enjoy a sunny Sunday afternoon driving the beautiful parkways of Minneapolis. Arrangements by Dale Martin & Greg Lauser. Wheels 'n Wings – (Sat) 8:00 am 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. Healey-Morgan Picnic – (Sun) Hosted by Herb & Marsha Miller at their home in Bloomington, MN. Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park
Oct. 3 ** Oct. 6 Oct. 13**	 in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments. PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. Fall Color Tour- (Sat) Another Tom Hazen colorful drive in the Wisconsin countryside. Adopt a Highway Clean-up - (Sat) The second of our two clean-ups for the year is to be on this date. Arrangements by Greg Lauser.
Nov. 3 Nov. 7 ** Nov. 17 **	 Charity Event – (Sat) 9:00 – 11:00 am. At the Feed My Starving Children building. Dale Martin arranges this very worthwhile event each year. It is an enjoyable and worthy cause. PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. Annual Banquet / Business Meeting Party – (Sat) The annual business meeting, election of officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Officer's Club.
Dec. 1 ** Dec. 5**	 Planning Breakfast – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2013 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Suzanne Willodson will select the site. PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. ** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

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

First Class Postage



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.

FOR SALE: 1959 Austin Healey 2 seater (BN6) including the car, spare new parts, hoarded used parts, rebuild cores, working tools, small historic tool collection, 6 DVD set of rebuild/instruction videos, library of Austin Healey books, including shop manuals, historical books, technical books and original sales literature. Asking NADA low retail book value of \$19,000 minus a \$2,000 credit to existing AH club members. It may be classified as a 20 footer. John Helgeson. Email me at <u>thehelgos@comcast.net</u> and I will send additional information. (3/12)

FOR SALE:\$8500.00 1950 DeSoto Deluxe with some Custom additions. 60xxx miles. Fluid Drive 4-Speed. (2-up, 2-down). Lovingly restored by Curt and his Dad beginning in 1979. New engine (750 miles since complete rebuild), new brakes (150 miles since complete total rebuild). Dad can't drive it and I can't store it. Currently in Ely, MN. Drivable to the Twin Cities. A very smooth, very comfortable car to drive and ride in. The trunk is big enough to hold a Bugeye. Email Curt Carlson <u>mnhealey@gmail.com</u> (3/12)

FOR RENT : Sedona 1 bedroom rental at beautiful Los Abrigados Resort & Spa. Available for 1 or 2 weeks until May 2012. Stocked kitchenette with full-size fridge, dishwasher. TV, DVD, VCR, linens and housekeeping included. Sleeps 4 (2 on sofa bed). \$100 pet charge/week. Your choice of 1st floor unit w/jacuzzi or 2nd floor balcony. \$1,500/wk. Contact Byron or Susan Peterson @ 763-540-0180 (2/12)

FOR SALE: 1960 Bugeye Sprite. Most everything is original, clean, and no rust. Drive it home. \$5500 Paul Isakson, Amery Wi. iker@amerytel.net , 715/554-3858.

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The Healey Enthusiast

<u>Apr 2012</u>