



# The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XVI No. 8

August 2005



**Bill Emerson with his newly restored Healey Westland**

## **August Events**

**Wednesday August 3 – Pie with the President**  
**Saturday August 13 – Ellingson Car Show Swap Meet**  
**Saturday August 20 – Gymkhana**  
**Thurs.-Sat. Aug. 25-27 – Rally in the Valley**

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## -- Through the Windscreen -- President's Perspective

**By Greg Lauser**

It's been a great Healey summer so far that only promises to get better. The Adopt-A-Highway signs are up on U.S. 61 just north of Lake City, so check out the environmental recognition our club is earning on that two-mile stretch of scenic roadway. We plan to take a group picture before the sign at Veteran's Highway Roadside Park there as part of the July 30 tour that wraps-up at Carl and Betty Stine's for a picnic and barbeque.

It was terrific to see and host so many long-time and new friends at Rendezvous 2005. A significant new dimension marking the event's success was word from Nancy Roth of Bridges Kinship Mentoring that the Grand Rapids charity realized a total of \$2,400 in additional funding as a result of the downtown car show. She noted in her newsletter that "some wonderful cars and even more wonderful car owners and spectators came out for our cause."

Generous \$1-bill balloting and the auctioning of marque placards accounted for more than half that total. Corporate sponsorships among local businesses and food vendors contributed the balance. Another big thank you to all who helped make the entire weekend a smashing success.

For me, Rendezvous weekend was followed by washing clothes, repacking and hitting the road for Conclave in Winston-Salem, N.C. Along the way I renewed acquaintances with relatives and old friends, made new friends for my metallic golden beige BJ8 at a covered bridge in the Henderson County roadside park in Illinois (see photo below) and was joined by Nancy in North Carolina. She, Barb and Gary Ronning and I were the Minnesota contingent at Conclave this year.

The 3000 performed well, requiring only re-gapping of the distributor points my third morning on the road, and replacing four spokes on the right rear wire wheel during the 3,459-mile adventure. The top was up only two of the 11 days spent on the road.

Personal highlights included cruising the Smoky Mountain and Blue Ridge Mountain parkways on the North Carolina-Tennessee border listening alternatively to "Horowitz in Moscow" and The Band singing "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down." It was a day to cherish. Another golden memory is Indiana Highway 62, a two-lane road nestled between the Ohio River and I-64 from Corydon to Dale, Ind. It's just a sand-wedge away from the interstate, but in a twisting, bluff-overlook, enchanting world. If you're in the area, don't fail to experience it.

Another hot, well-organized Healey Hillclimb is in the record books thanks to Tom Hazen and his helpers. Now, it's on to Gymkana at Brown & Bigelow, and another inspired Hazen rally in October. See you down the road!

**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 Pie

**Date:** Wednesday July 6th

**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.

## Swap Meet / Car Show

**Date:** Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Place:** Ellingson Car Museum  
Interstate Hwy. 94  
Rogers, MN

This popular annual event is put on by the Minnesota MG Group. They do a great job allowing us to relax, show our cars, and do some shopping among the vendors. In the past, there have not been a lot of Healeys present, so come on out and show people that our beautiful cars are still being driven.

## Sunday Natter & Noggins

Once again a replacement for the Sunday night gatherings at Sherlock's Home has been arranged. The location is **Kip's Pub**, which is located in the hotel at the northwest corner of **I394 and Hwy. 169**. This is a real Irish pub and looks to have great possibilities.

Starting time is **3:00 P.M.** - ? Let's try it out!



## Gymkhana

**Date:** Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Place:** Brown & Bigelow Parking Lot  
345 Plato Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN

It's time again to test your driving skills zipping around the pylons. The course is always new, even though the location is the same. Please bring your Safety Helmet, if you have one. There will be extras available at the site as well. You may want to bring some water or soda if the day is hot. We will adjourn to Awada's Restaurant, as usual, after the event. Spectators are welcome too!

## Club Regalia

Jim Wojcik

This casual event every Saturday morning about 8:30 continues to be very popular! Great food, reasonable prices, & friendly LBC car enthusiasts make it a great place to keep in touch. The location again is:

**The Square Peg Diner**  
2021 East Hennepin Ave. Mpls.

Good news from Advon, our vendor for embroidered clothing. There is no longer a charge for special ordered clothing under a minimum order, except for caps. Send in any orders to us, and we will order the items without further waiting for orders to build up. Be well dressed for those Summer and Fall drives! Jim Wojcik 651-653-4523 or [jwojcik@comcast.net](mailto:jwojcik@comcast.net)



# Healey Hillclimb

**Editor**

Tom Hazen and his crew of diligent workers were out early on Saturday morning. They were sweeping the course, setting Pylons and Water Barriers, assigning corner workers, etc. to get ready for a big day of Autocross/Hillclimbing. Then there were the instructions and the course walking. Cars were grouped into two heats. The first heat would run their cars and wait at the top of the hill until all had finished. They would parade down, park, and the second heat would do their run. This would go on continuously through the day. Many cars had five runs.

At Noon, there was a break where all could have time for lunch. The Afton Staff served a delicious lunch for \$10.00, and there was much conversation during that time. After lunch, the runs began again. Speaking of "heats", the day was very hot. Cold water and soda was going down almost as fast as the cars!

The Autocross at the bottom of the hill was quite complicated, so the first runs of the day resulted in many DNFs. With some slight changes to the Pylon placements, the course was more evident and proved to be challenging and fun. The drivers varied from "Mr. Sunday" to Mr. Andretti in style. All were very enjoyable to watch.

The day ended with no incidents, and surely people will be looking forward to next year's event. Thanks



**Walking the course**



**Tom starting a 100**



**Top of the Hill**



**Mr. FTD !**

## Rendezvous 2005 Charity Car Show Winners Downtown Grand Rapids, Minnesota

### Triumph

1 <sup>st</sup> - Bill Sullivan	Stag
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Joe DeMuth	TR3
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Derrick Wilson	TR3
4 <sup>th</sup> - Bob Groman	TR6

### Other British

1 <sup>st</sup> - Terry Telke	TVR
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### Non British

1 <sup>st</sup> - Stan Bonneson	Porsche 356
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Andy Lindberg	Citroen 2CV

Note: Apologies from the Editor for not including the above winners in last month's newsletter.

## Presidential Pie

**Mike Martin**

Hi folks: It was time for pie at the O'club again. I must say, not much pie crossed the table, but a lot of pints did. About 25 Healeyites showed up for the session.

President Greg started the meeting with a recap of Rendezvous. Many accolades have been received. A plea was made to get our bills in so we can pay them, and then get an accurate picture of what the profits were. Greg and I both agreed that it was a lot of work, but also lots of fun - thanks to all of you.

He then compared Rendezvous with Conclave. The hotel at Conclave was unfortunately not ready in time for the event. The restaurant was also closed so food had to be catered from outside. The saving grace was about 250 Healeys – many interesting rare models. What more could you need? Overall, it was a pleasant Conclave with many nice people. At any rate it looks like we did a pretty good job with our Grand Rapids event. The last report from the Kinship charity gave them a total of over 2 grand from the downtown car show. Thanks again Tom P.!

Tom Hazen then sallied forth on the upcoming Hillclimb. He was looking for corner workers and willing to buy lunch for those who put in a full days work. Pretty good deal - watch the action up close, smell the burning rubber (Healey driver's shoes), get a free lunch, and a beer after its all over. Sign me up. Woops, forgot, - watch Tom Hazen turn into an extreme hard nose when the event starts. When it comes to safety, Tom will shoot first and ask questions later. Good for him.

Dan Powell said he has some videos from his race cam taken at AUHC races. Hopefully we can see these at a later pie.

Pres. Greg mentioned the tour on the 30th. It will be Southwest of Red Wing and end up at Carl and Betty Stine's Ranch for a picnic. Sounds like a good time.

Jack and Fran Stein brought new members Manuel (Manny) Capiz and Jackie Quiggle. Manny said he has a tri carb that needs a little work. We all thought that was funny, cause they all need a little work! Manny - if it only leaks a little, then you need to add more oil!

Fran and Jack Stein had a couple of Aussie Racer house guests. Fran said they were much fun, and that it was a real pleasure to have them there. Thanks to you for your hospitality!

It was mentioned that the club got some recognition for our efforts in support of the Aussie challenge. While we had a nominal contribution, there were members that did a lot more. The Australian US Healey Challenge would not have happened were it not for Jeff, Carol and Jessica Johnk. I don't know all the details, but the ones I do know make them very special people. My hat is off to them. Thank you!

Now get those Healeys out and enjoy the tour on July 30th!

# CONCLAVE 2005



**By Gary Ronning**

After driving through the looong up & down hills of the Appalachians, we arrived at Winston Salem, North Carolina on Sunday afternoon. The headquarters for Conclave was at the Adams Mark Hotel in the downtown area. After checking in, we attended the hospitality gathering on Sunday evening.

Monday brought the Gymkhana, which was well attended. It was a fairly long course, and even the bigger cars were doing well. Some of the Australians came just in time, and Wendy Gibbs took Fastest Time of Day! Back at the hotel, the Regalia Room, the Raffle Room, and the Arts & Crafts Room were all open. Car washing was going on all day a short ways down the street. Monday evening there was a live auction of some very nice items during the hospitality time.

Tuesday the Popularity Car Show was held at the historic Reynolda Estate – the home and grounds of the founder of the R.J. Reynolds famous tobacco company. It was a beautiful setting for over 200 Healeys on display. Some of the unique cars included Bill Emerson's freshly restored Healey Westland (see cover), and Alan Casavant's Healey 4000, two Silverstones, and a Speedwell Sprite. It was a great show and took quite a while to vote on all the classes of cars present. What a lovely dilemma!

Wednesday was Rally Day! People could choose from two different TSD Rallies plus a Gimmick Rally. We opted for the latter and enjoyed driving through the beautiful North Carolina countryside. It was lush and green with rolling hills. Had a good time!

Wednesday evening there was a Barbecue Buffet with a program afterwards honoring the Australian US Healey Challenge. This program added a lot to the evening, and I'm sure it attracted more people to attend Conclave this year. The racing teams had finished at the Mid Ohio track and came directly to Winston Salem. Jeff Johnk did a great job of emceeing the program. He told how the Challenge was developed on his trip to Australia, how the races went as they traveled to the five different venues, and how important the people are who are now close friends. He also thanked the sponsors and people that helped make the tour so successful.

There were a lot of outstanding trophies to award for the racing. Jeff gave the descriptions, and Carol presented the trophies to the recipients. Jessica accepted the Sportsmanship Trophy awarded to Dan Powell, as he was not present. It was a great evening for the Racers, and they topped it off with a Champagne squirting contest just outside the hotel entrance! There will be some long goodbyes on Friday when they part, and the Aussies go back home. We have witnessed an historic event!

Thursday started with a session featuring the Race Drivers. Questions were asked of both the US and Australians. It appeared that no one was hiding any secrets about the refinements on their cars. Some were more modified than others. The differences in times many times ended up being in the abilities of the Drivers. The leading cars are finely tuned, and the drivers are outstanding.

Later in the day, the founders of Conclave – Walt & Jeanette Blanck and Chuck & Edie Anderson – had a session on the history of Conclave. They have been to every one since the beginning, and this was the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Edie has a scrapbook for each Conclave with pictures and anecdotes. People were leafing through them and reminiscing. The Ohio Club then had a Hospitality Hour to pass out literature and to encourage people to come in 2006.

The Awards Dinner started at 6:30 p.m. There were about 400 people attending, so the room was extra large. The dinner was served very nicely, and there were a lot of awards given out. Gerry Coker presented his traveling trophy for the best 100 car of the year. Ray Jackson Moore, veteran Healey Race Driver, spoke a bit as well. People were lingering afterwards saying their farewells – especially to the Australians. It was a beautiful evening for ending the Conclave and the historic AUHC events. Thanks to the Triad Chapter of the AHCA for putting on a wonderful event!





**Conclave Pictures – from the top: The beautiful Green Countryside, Dan Parsons readying for the Gymkhana, The Car Show at Reynolda, Alan Casavant with his very rare Healey 4000, Racers on stage along with Gerry Coker and Roy Jackson Moore, The Last Hurrah for the Johnks and the Aussies!**

## Tech Tip:

by Doctor Ernie

**Subject:** *It is actually just a bunch of information regarding **engine oils** that have been offered by various publications and sources over the last 40 years, along with some of my own beliefs.*

Hardly anyone would disagree that modern oils aren't incredibly advanced in regards to protecting engines compared to oils 40, 60, or 100 years ago. During this time frame, there has been about every experiment you could imagine to make oil better - many of them home brewed varieties. Now, here's one of my suggestions: **DON'T DO IT.** They are referred to by the petroleum industry as "Mouse Milk Additives" and almost always are not recommended. Sure, they might enhance one aspect of oil performance, but at a big penalty at some other important function of the oil. Here's a human related example: What if you were offered a pill that would really knock your headache, but would kill your liver. Well, you get the point. Not many takers I guess. As long as we're on this topic, I understand there are quite a few types of base oils, and each of these base oils works best with additive packages designed to compliment just that oil. I think the old recommendation of "don't mix brands of oils" still has some merit. Being it's quite impossible to drain all of the oil out of the engine without totally disassembling the engine, I'd not recommend switching brands at every change. This is not to say that I wouldn't change brands if that oil just wasn't reasonably available anymore. I just would not make it a regular habit.

Another thing about modern oils is that they are use specific. Here's where "READ THE BOOK" isn't just a hip saying. It's mandatory if you expect to get maximum trouble free life from your engine. I actually knew a guy that bought one barrel of oil "10 w 40" and used it winter and summer in his airplane, Deutsch irrigator motor, Ford pickup, John Deere, snowmobile, lawnmower, Kenworth, everything! His belief was that anything else was just an oil company con game. Of course, this same guy spent time in jail cause he told the IRS that their share of the corn (taxes) was still out in the field, and they'd better get it cause winter was coming. His mentality might have almost worked (the part about oil) back in the 50's, but today's engines are so unique in their needs that no one oil could possibly serve all engines. So, if your Ford, Lycoming, Kenworth, Evinrude, Viper, or whatever calls for a specific oil, **BUY IT AND USE IT.**

Next Tech Tip: Oil weights. That's more complicated than you'd guess.

### NEW MEMBERS

**Al & Toni Cady** joined the MAHC recently. They live in Edina and own a 3000 Mk III BJ8.

**Also Hillary & Matthew Ropponen** of Cohasset, MN joined the club. They have an AN-8 Sprite Mk III.

Welcome! We hope to see you at future events soon!

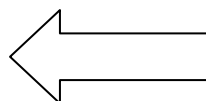




## Events Schedule

- Aug 3 \*\*** **Pie with the President** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3 for details.
- Aug 13** **Swap Meet/Car Show** – (Sat) 9:00 a.m. 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 Club.
- Aug 20 \*\*** **Gymkhana** – (Sat) Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Brown & Bigelow parking lot at 345 Plato Blvd. In St. Paul. The pylons will be set up, and you can test your driving skills. For more info, call Steve Rixen at 715-386-2880 or email to [steve@rixen.com](mailto:steve@rixen.com)
- Aug. 25 - 27** **Rally in the Valley 2005 - at Paradise Shores** – (Thurs – Sat)) This is an annual event arranged by Steve & Diane Rindt in Holcombe, WI. Festivities include a Rally, Poolside Party, Boat Cruise, Car Show, Funkhana, and Texas Style Banquet Party with Awards!  
Ph: 715-832-8316 or email to: [drindt5953@hotmail.com](mailto:drindt5953@hotmail.com) .
- Sept. 7 \*\*** **Pie with the President** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Sept. 10** **Wheels 'n Wings** – (Sat) 8:00 a.m. 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.
- Sept. 17 – 19** **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., or Jeff L. for details.
- Oct. 5 \*\*** **Pie with the President** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Oct. 1\*\*** **Dog Days of Summer Tour** – (Sat.) Meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Pickle Factory in Pepin WI for lunch. Driver's meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. Drive the Tour and end up at Hanson's Hold Up near Fountain City, WI. Tom Hazen will be directing the Tour.
- Oct. 15 \*\*** **Fall Color Tour-** (Sat.) Come out and enjoy the beautiful Fall colors with the top down. Dick Mathews will be planning a southern Minnesota drive. Details later.
- Nov. 2 \*\*** **Pie with the President** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Nov. 13\*\*** **Tea & Tech Session** - (Sun.) - Meet at Sandy and Steve Rixen's home for another session of sipping (Ladies) and slurping (Men) in Hudson, WI. Details later.
- Nov. 19 \*\*** **Pizza Party** – (Sat.) The annual business meeting, election of officers, and consumption of pizza will occur on this evening. Details later.
- Dec. 3 \*\*** **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat.) The schedule of events for 2004 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Mike Martin will select the site.
- Dec. 7\*\*** **Pie with the President** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.

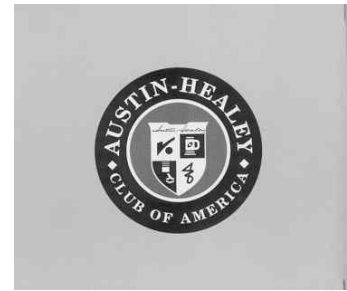
\*\* - Denotes an official MAHC club activity



**Picture of the MAHC roadside sign along Hwy. 61 in the Lake City area.**  
Photo courtesy of Curt Carlson.

Minnesota Austin Healey Club  
Gary Ronning, Editor  
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Minneapolis, MN 55406

First Class Postage



## MARKETPLACE

**FOR SALE:** 1964 Mark II Sprite; converted to right side drive; chassis number indicates built late in Mark II series ('62 or '63, but titled as '64 likely due to transport time) good condition; runs well; great conversation piece and head-turner; \$3,500; call or email Kristine for photos and info at 612-207-6310 or [kanderson@landalegal.com](mailto:kanderson@landalegal.com) (6/03)

**FOR SALE:** 1959 Austin Healey 100-6 BN-4. Complete frame-off restoration. Tartan Red. New everything: wheels, leather seats, bumpers, grille, windshield, etc.. Engine professionally rebuilt, zero balanced and more. \$25,500. Call John Rugeberg at 507-454-5220 Winona, MN (6/03)

**FOR SALE:** One - still in the shipping carton - heat shield set that fits any 3000 or 100-6. Anyone with HD6 or HS4 carbs --- give me a call. I have new rebuild parts you should be interested in. A nice package deal. Call Geoff 612-822-7069 or [casadirossi@hotmail.com](mailto:casadirossi@hotmail.com) (7/03)

**FOR SALE:** Bugeye Fiberglass bonnet with flared fenders, one headlamp bucket cut open for air, also rear add on flare fenders - all in great condition. \$300 Jack Bacon Jr (home) 763-479-6214 (cell) 763-222-9163 (8/05)

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