



The *Healey Enthusiast*

Volume XX No. 7

July 2009



Rendezvous Car Show – Downtown Ashland

JULY EVENTS

WED. JULY 1
SAT. JULY 11
SUN. JULY 19
SUN. JULY 26

PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING - PIE
HEALEY GYMKHANA
LYNCH JAGUAR-HEALEY FIESTA PICNIC
INTERMARQUE PICNIC

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National Web Site	www.healeyclub.org

Presidential Proclamatio ns

**BEHIND THE SCENES AT ASHLAND**

It is customary to have an after action meeting Sunday morning following each Rendezvous. Attended by interested club representatives, one goal of this gathering is to review the event's successes and entertain suggestions on how the host club could improve the event. It was a proud moment for the Rendezvous committee and your President when the event was described as "perfect". It's a testament to the core group of Rendezvous regulars who step forward every third year and produce a great event--and judging by the compliments I received all weekend, our guests felt it was a great event.

The City of Ashland, Wisconsin under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce did an excellent job of rolling out the red carpet, showering attendees with brochures, a souvenir pin and water bottle, and publicizing the event weeks in advance. Community events were planned to coincide with the Rendezvous Car Show on Ashland's main street on Saturday morning. The Thunder Bay planning group was so impressed by this, that they went home with the intent of redoubling their efforts to get the Thunder Bay chamber more involved in Rendezvous 2010.

I would like to thank the Rendezvous 2009 committee staff members: Tom Moerke, Greg Lauser, Nancy Lauser, Jim Klein, June Moerke, Gary Ronning, Barb Ronning, Mike Lynch, Gloria Lynch, Tom Hazen, Wayne Soderbeck, Jan Huston, Tom Politiski, Dale Martin, Jim Kriz, Joe Werner, Sue Werner and graphic designers Jane Southward and Terry Mackey.

Great people make a great event!

(ed.note:...and thanks to our hard working congenial President!)

Ten years ago in July, Minnesota Austin-Healey Club members met organizer Dick Mathews at Perkins at Highway 36 & Lexington for a dinner drive to The River's Edge Restaurant in Somerset Wisconsin.

Twenty years ago no MAHC event was held nor newsletter published as editor Dan Powell competed in the Chicago Historic Races at Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin with fellow members Jeff Lumbard and Rich Stadther.

Thanks to Steve Rixen for the Cover Photo

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 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 is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America.

PIE

(PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING)

Date: Wednesday July 1st

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.

Addresses !

Please let us know if you have had any changes in name, address, phone number, or email address recently. Also **spouse email addresses** are welcome, so club activities and info can be better distributed to all members. Thank you !

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 PIE PLATTER

There was a meeting on June 3rd. Attendance was very good, and many items were discussed. Unfortunately there is no record available of that night.



Rendezvous Poster going up



Committee working Wednesday night

The Veep Beep

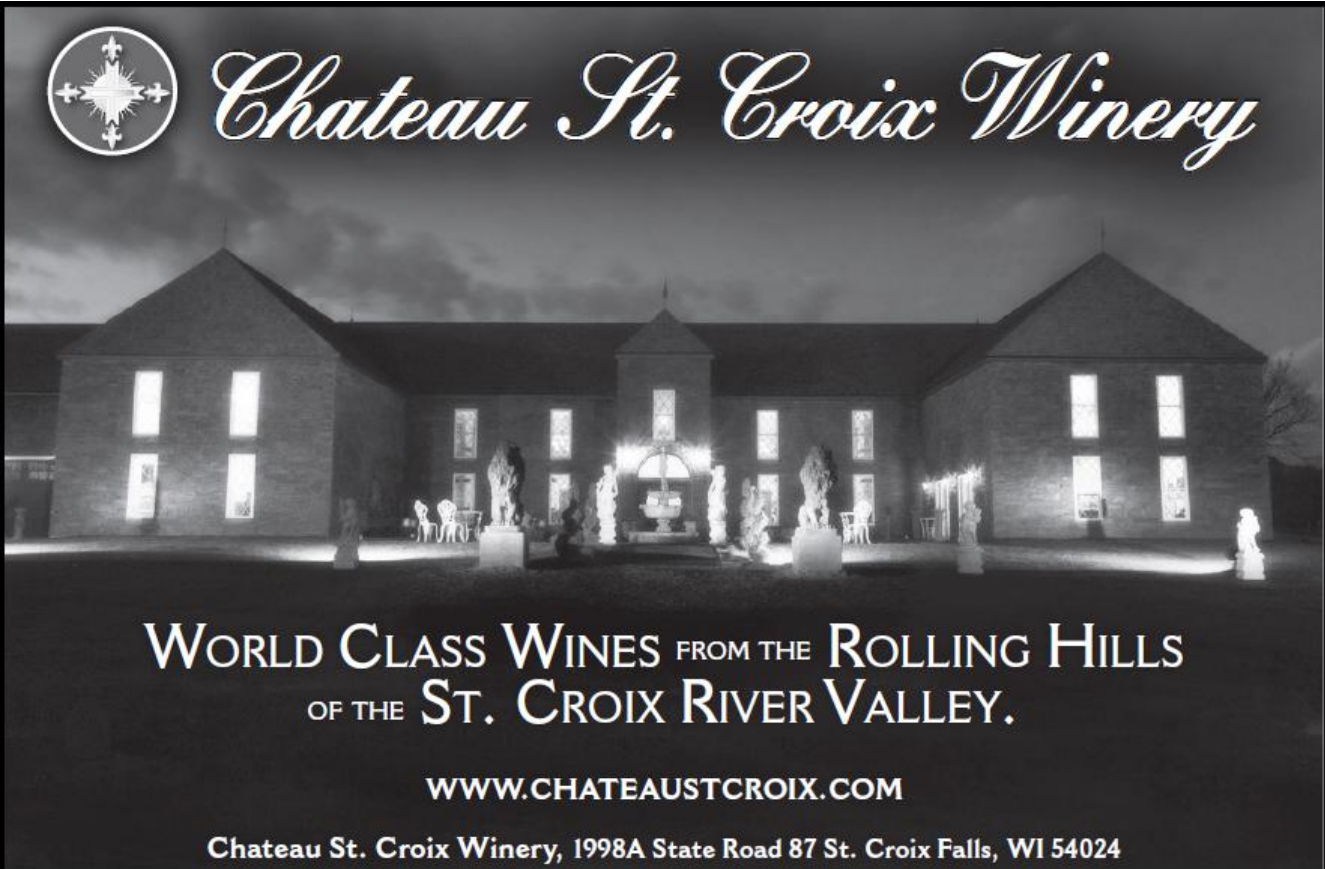
by Katy Olson


June has been a lovely driving month so far - especially since I've had a car to drive!

The Amery Airport run was the first driving event I've taken the Volvo to. We were blessed with a lovely if not slightly hot day. Attendance was good as were the treats provided by the Girl Scouts. 63 driver/car combinations made a total of 276 starts and the folks who stayed all day got six runs in. John Schmidt earned fastest time of the day in his 1998 BMW M3 in 31.69 seconds, and Julie Gujer was fastest woman of the day (3rd overall) with 32.56 in her 1994 Corvette. The fastest pre-1980 car was the 1957 Austin Healey 100-6 driven by our own Steve Rixen at 34.50 seconds. Many thanks to all of the great volunteers who make this event possible!

As is often the case, there was more than one event happening on the 20th. My afternoon was spent at Back to the 50s. I was pleased to see at least 3 Healeys there, including a handful of MGs and one rather nice Volvo P1800!

I hope to see many of you next month on July 11 for our Brown & Bigelow Gymkhana!



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8th Annual Gymkhana Invitational



Team Healey Challenge

Event Date: Saturday July 11th

Time: 10:00 am, until approx 1:30

Location: Brown & Bigelow Parking Lot

345 Plato Blvd E. St. Paul, MN (Plato exit, Hwy 52)

Driver Admission: \$5 for all Austin Healey Club Members,
Other vintage cars \$10, modern cars* \$20 (*limited to 10)

Test your driving skills around pylons on a custom designed course, on a genuine Minnesota parking lot. Requirements to compete include a waiver signature, a snell 85 helmet (some loaners avail), seatbelts and a safe car.

10:00 a.m. Mandatory Drivers meeting to explain safety, discuss the features of the course, walk the course and discuss course management.

Refreshments (pop & water) will be provided.
At the conclusion of the runs, those interested will retire to Joseph's –
4blks away....for a little something to eat/drink.

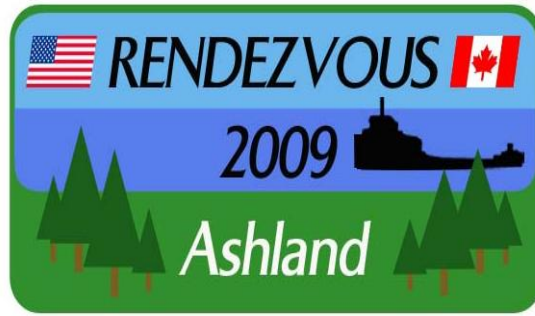
On site Registration 9:00- 10:00

Spectators are welcome!

Pre-registrations welcome, or register on-site the day of the event

Contacts: **Scott McQueen**
Tel: (612) 623-4938
mcqueen.scott@comcast.net

Aaron Courteau
aaron.courteau@gmail.com



Rendezvous 2009 was the 19th annual gathering of sportscar enthusiasts from Thunder Bay, Ontario, Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Minnesota car club groups. This year the Minnesota Austin Healey Club was the host.

Rendezvous 2009 actually started on Wednesday June 10th, as many of the 20 committee members went up early to get ready for the guests arriving on Thursday. There was last minute assembly of the packets for each registration that contained many nice items. There was an assortment of brochures, tickets, registration forms, metal pins donated by the City of Ashland, Dash Plaques arranged for by Wayne Soderbeck, Tee Shirts (green for guests & red for AH members), Poster designed by Jane Southwood, and all put in a carry bag provided by Mike Lynch's sponsors. Greg and Nancy Lauser were in charge of registration, so they had all the information. After assembling, we adjourned to the Deep Water Grill in downtown Ashland to have supper and enjoy their delicious micro-brewery offerings!

Thursday morning was sunny and warm ! Sue Werner had arranged for a Golf outing. There were about 10 people – including several Canadians - who took part in this early event. Lots of car washing going on too. Registration opened in the afternoon, and people started arriving. There were over 100 registrations, so total attendance was about 200 people. The local Chamber of Commerce was there and handed out free Water Bottles – to be used at the local artesian wells in the area.

About 5:30 we adjourned to the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center down the road for the welcoming Hospitality Night! This was a beautiful facility, and Barb Ronning had arranged for the great refreshments and catered hors d'ouvres. Nut Brown Ale was served from the local brewery, and wine was donated by the local White Winter Winery ! People wandered around looking at the displays and also went to the tower to get a nice view of the area. Later we all assembled in the auditorium at the center to hear about the events for the weekend. Wayne Soderbeck and Jan Huston explained their Friday Adventure Tour, Tom Moerke talked about the Bayfield Tour, Dale Martin explained the Car Show, and Tom Hazen talked excitedly about the Gymkhana/ Straightaway Run. Mike Lynch also talked about how the Raffles, Prizes, and Auctions were to be done over the weekend. By the way, everyone got a free prize at sometime (I think my number was the next to last one posted), thanks to the soliciting efforts of Mike and Gloria Lynch. People then went out to various restaurants for dinner.

Friday morning was again sunny, and guests assembled with their cars to go on to one of the Tours. Joe Werner was there to take pictures in front of the event banners (procured by Jim Kriz). Those pictures were then developed and given free to the recipients on Saturday evening. Wayne and Jan had a very thorough tour of the area with several stops at interesting places. Tom & June had a tour to Bayfield and Madeline Island that was more historic. Everyone had a good time !

At 4:00 pm, noted author Kevin Clemens gave a talk about his recent book "The Crooked Mile". He has done much research and is very knowledgeable on the subject of fuels for our future. What are our options for the future, and what can we do to be better caretakers of our planet? These questions and more made for a very interesting discussion.

Continued on page 7



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Rendezvous continued...

Dinner on Friday night was again open, and our group dined at the old Chequamegon Hotel in Molly Cooper's Restaurant. Being Friday night, the fish fries were featured. They were delicious ! We did not linger, as the MG Girls were going to put on a show back at the AmericInn at 8:00 pm.

There was a good crowd gathered to watch the "Girls", and a cash bar was set up to serve refreshments. It was a movie with one girl at a time "romancing" an old British car. Filmed by photographer Bob Jensen, it was fun to watch. Also, each girl was there live in her attire that was shown in the movies. They did a great job !

Saturday morning was a little damp ! The cars did assemble downtown, where the city had closed off two blocks for us to display our cars. The sun came out shortly, and the crowds gathered. There were some charity booths that the city had set up, and the Mural Tours were very well done. Most of the old buildings in the downtown are still standing and refurbished. On their sides, historic murals have been painted that all have a story. Very nice ! Event participants had ballots, so lots of voting was going on. Tom Politiski divided up the cars by color, so we voted for best red car, green car, etc. Dale Martin made all the beautiful wood trophies for the show, which were given out at the Awards Banquet that evening.

The Gymkhana/Straightaway Run began at 1:00 pm. Tom Hazen had his usual well organized event planned with helpers, however the rain decided to return. Consequently, there was on again / off again driving that afternoon. It was a great venue at the Airport, as a complete runway was available for the straightaway ! People got their runs in eventually, with Dwight McCullough coming in with the best time !

At 3:30 Ernie West had a Tech Session back at the AmericInn. We were worried that he would not have time to get his runs in at the Gymkhana, but he took care of that. He blew his stack again ! Those darn JH headgaskets just don't want to stay in put ! Anyway, he gave his usual interesting and detailed talk on various parts and behaviors of the vintage automobile. Always a fun time.

The highlight is always the Saturday night Banquet, and this one was no exception. June Moerke worked with the caterer to come up with delicious offerings. The food was great. There were about 180 people for dinner, and Emcee exceptionale (is that French?) Andy Lindberg took charge after the meal. He started with the Long Distance Award, and after much discussion it went to a person from the far side of Winnipeg. The Hard Luck Award went to Ernie West, although he had some competition too.

Then Wayne Soderbeck and Jan Huston gave some awards for their tour – which had questions to answer. Tom Hazen gave the FTD award to Dwight McCullough. Tom Politiski and Dale Martin then passed out the many hand-made awards for the Car Show. Tom P. had a live auction for a nice Donald Healey Commemorative Plate, and a Golf Weekend at Ruttger's Sugar Lake Lodge. Also he auctioned off the event Banners.

Glen Patterson addressed the crowd about next year's Rendezvous in Thunder Bay, Ontario. They have the Nor'Wester Hotel reserved again, so people can make their reservations anytime now. He passed out some flyers and invited all to come up next year !

Andy thanked everyone for coming, and we adjourned. A great weekend !



Registration with Greg and Rod



Jim Wojcik going touring



The Delta Diner

Many thanks to all the photo contributors !



Murals and Jazz downtown

The Black/White Car Show winners



Airport Gymkhana/Straightaway Run



Eileen



The Gardens

The Minnetonka Meander & Chanhassen Chowdown

Sunday morning was sunny and warm with a little western breeze. What a beautiful day for a ride around Lake Minnetonka ! We had a nice group of people and cars that met at 10:00 am near Hwys. 101 and 7. They included John & Carol Shorrock, Chuck & Jean Norton, Tom & June Moerke, Steve & Kim Rixen, Joe & Sue Werner, Greg & Nancy Lauser, Jim & Rose Klein, Gary & Eileen Wetzels, Dale & Barb Martin, Jack Stein, and Gary & Barb Ronning.

We started off with the navigators having directions and questions to note as we drove. The drive took us around many of the bays and into Wayzata. There we turned onto Ferndale, where the “rich & famous” hang their hats. After Navarre, we stopped at the Noerenberg Gardens. This is regarded as one of the finest formal gardens in Minnesota. It was originally part of the home grounds of Frederick Noerenberg, founder of the Grain Belt Brewery, and was willed to the park district in 1972. We took another short break at a beach down the road. The road then took us through Shorewood, Excelsior, Chaska, and in to Chanhassen.

Upon arriving at Mike & Gloria Lynch’s home, we were immediately treated to cold drinks and snacks. They have a great deck upon which we perched and poured (Harps and Wine are hard to beat – and that’s not music!). Dave & Kim Meek had joined Mike & Gloria earlier to help with the serving. The dinner offerings came next, and they were outstanding. Argentine Chicken (still not sure if Mike shot them), fancy Beef sandwiches (with rare spices), fruit, potato salad, and corn on the cob (please sir, could I have more?). Finally, the ice cream with the Brownie to blow your mind. Wow, what chow ! Thanks again to our wonderful hosts ! ed.



The Deck



The Cars

Events Schedule 2009

July 1 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
July 4	Chetek Car Show (Sat.) at Airport, Chetek, Wisconsin mmgg.org
July 11 **	8th Annual Healey Gymkhana – (Sat) Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the Brown & Bigelow parking lot at 345 Plato Blvd. in St. Paul. Scott McQueen and Aaron Courteau will be making the arrangements. See page 5.
July 17-19	The Kohler International Challenge (formerly called the BRIC) The largest vintage car race event held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. Lots of people, so plan early. A great display of exotic cars. For details, call Jeff Johnk, Dan Powell, or Jeff Lumbard
July 19**	Lynch Jaguar - Healey Fiesta Picnic (Sun) Details tba.
July 26	Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 p.m. Cherokee Park, St. Paul, MN
August 5 **	PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
August 6-9	Rally in the Valley – (Thurs-Sun) This is a European Inter-Marque Sports Car Event sponsored by the Minnesota MG Group. Hosts are Steve and Diane Rindt – phone 715-832-8316. Location is Eau Claire, WI. Hotel reservations at Sleep Inn – 715-874-2900.
August 9 **	Lauser /Stine Tour & Picnic – (Sun) There will be a driving tour ending up at Carl & Betty Stine's for a Picnic at their beautiful farm in Beldenville, WI. Details later.
August 15	BRIT FEST – All British Swap Meet/Car Show – (Sat) 10:00 a.m. This event has been held at the Ellingson Car Museum on Hwy. 94 in Rogers, MN for the past twelve years. It's a great place to buy or sell parts and to show your car. Sponsored by MMGG.
August 22 **	Amery Airport Autocross VI – (Sat) Another Hazen Hodown ! Details later.
August 30	Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 p.m. Cherokee Park – St. Paul, MN.

** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

INTER-MARQUE

SUNDAY PICNICS





JUNE 28
JULY 26
AUG. 31

(the last Sunday
of the month)

1 P.M., CHEROKEE PARK
ON THE WEST SIDE IN ST. PAUL

What better way to spend a Sunday afternoon than to go for a drive and stop for a picnic at scenic Cherokee Park. This is a do-it-yourself affair, so bring your own food, beverages, plates, silverware, lawn chairs, grills, and a dish to pass if you want. *If it rains, it's cancelled.*

Steve Rixen is...

 **Strictly British** 

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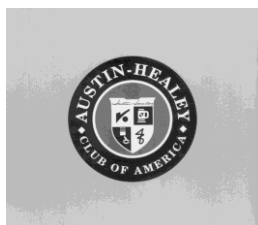
Hudson WI 54016

Events Schedule 2009

- September 2 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
- September 11-13** **Fall Vintage Race Festival XXIV** - Held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. A great opportunity to rub shoulders with the drivers and see the race cars up close. Call Jeff J., Dan P., or Jeff L. for details.
- September 12** **Wheels 'n Wings** – (Sat) 8:00 a.m. Looks like the event is still alive. Lots of cars and books. Airplanes, a train ride, hot dogs, and friendly people make it an enjoyable day in Osceola, WI.
- September 13 **** **Morgan - Healey Picnic** – (Sun.) Herb and Marsha are hosting again. Details tba.
- September 27 **** **Huston - Soderbeck Fall Picnic** (Sun) 1:00 p.m. at the Soderbeck home in Roberts WI. Details later by Jan Huston and Wayne Soderbeck.
- October 7 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
- October 10 **** **Adopt A Highway Clean-up** (Sat) 9:00 a.m. The second of our two clean-ups for the year is to take place on this date. Arranged by Greg Lauser.
- October 10**** **Fall Color Tour** - (Sat.) 2:00 p.m. The final drive of the year to enjoy the beautiful Fall tree colors. Details later.
- November 4 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
- November 7 **** **Charity Event** – (Sat) Dale Martin will schedule our club to take part in a repeat food packaging charitable exercise for Feed My Starving Children. Details later.
- November 21 **** **Annual Business Meeting Party** – (Sat) The annual business meeting, election of officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club. Arrangements being made by Mike Martin.
- December 2 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
- December 5 **** **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2010 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Katy Olson will select the site.
- December 5 **** **Annual MAHC Board of Directors Meeting** – (Sat) The Board of Directors will meet following the Planning Breakfast to ratify the 2010 Schedule of Official MAHC Activities (tentatively set for 11:00 a.m.)
- ** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity**
- Special Event:** **September 2009** is the projected time for a special event at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. An Australian group has re-manufactured an original A-H Endurance car and also a copy of the original Streamliner from the mid 1950s. If all goes well, they plan to have them at Bonneville for testing – see article in the March 2009 Healey Marque. They have a website to check the progress of their plans. That address is: www.healeysreturntobonneville.com. You may want to attend !!
- June 17-20** **Rendezvous 2010** - (Thurs – Sun) Location for 2010 will be at the Best Western Nor'Wester Resort Hotel in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Reserve early !

Minnesota Austin Healey Club
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.

WANTED: High speed 3.54 rear end or gear set to fit BJ8. Contact Dan Stromquist @ 952-831-1340 Ext 1. (5/09)

FOR SALE: 1966 A-H 3000 BJ8. British Racing Green w/Black interior. Approx. 75M miles. Well maintained and in excellent condition. Owned since 1985. Call Bob Thomas at 651-748-9153. (6/09)

FOR SALE: 1962 A-H 3000 Mk II – Needs full restoration. Brian McCullough found it - located near Wyoming, MN. For information, email to russellj@loftenlabel.com . (6/09)