

## The <br> Healey Enthusiast

## JULY EVENTS

Sun-Thur July 3-7 Austin Healey National Conclave Wed. July 13 PIE Meeting
Fri-Sun July 15-17 Kohler Int. Challenge FRI. JULY 22
SUN. JULY 31 SUN. JULY 31


# PIE <br> (President's Informal Evening) 

Date: Wednesday July 13th<br>Time: 7:00 p.m. (or before)<br>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.

## Brealkfast 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


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## Presidential Ponderings

## By EILEEN WETZEL

June- The perfect month! Warm sunny days, cool nights, well, ideally anyway. Mother Nature has given us a few breaks in the clouds for some fun driving weather, and drive we have! Geoff and Dianne Rossi treated us to a lovely Spring Awakening Tour followed by two of Tom Hazen's speed events.

Two years ago, at the gymkhana, I truly fell for Austin Healeys. So, perhaps I was a little sneaky in coaxing my twenty six year old daughter, Bridget, into driving my Healey at the Afton Hill Climb. Bridget had only driven it a couple of times beforehand. We took turns driving the Healey, and we both had a ball! Bridget had chances to ride with other people too. She rode with me, Steve, and then Kim Rixen, and Tom Hazen too, I believe. She could not get over how kind and friendly everyone was to her. I think she has an appreciation for the Healeys now too!

The following weekend was the Amery Speed Run, another well executed event run by Tom "Amazin" Hazen. The weather held out, the course was challenging, and a great time was had by all.

The Sunday following the Amery Run was an Intermarque gathering at the Charthouse in Lakeville, put on by Eric Hawkinson of the Jaguar Club. Jeff Johnk, Bob and Barb Featherly, and Gary and I were there with our cars to represent the MAHC. Other members were there with other cars as well. What a beautiful venue, a great background for photos. We are hoping to do that again.
"Rendezvous on the Red" hosted by the British Iron Society was a great success. It was well attended; and there were no shortages of activities-the funkhana being my favorite, of course! Rendezvous is such a great time to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. What a delightful cast of characters. I don't remember the last time I laughed so hard.

Gary and I enjoy every outing with the MAHC and the British families, and we look forward to our future events and driving our Healeys. I have a phrase that keeps popping into my mind that I think works well with the club: "come for the cars, stay for the people." Let's have a great July!! See you on the road!!

# the Presidents Informal Evening 

By Geoff Rossi

June 2, 2011
Fort Snelling Officers' Club
President Wetzel presiding
Called to order: 1905
As always, there was a good gathering of Club members for eats and fellowship. President Wetzel thanked the Speed Run and Hill Climb participants and workers - and especially Tom Hazen. She also announced an upcoming car show at the Chart House in Lakeville.

The InterMarque Picnic at Cherokee Park on June 26 was discussed. Everyone is asked to bring something along to share. Betty Stine says she will bring "the crystal". I think that means you will need to bring the champagne.

Membership Report: Chairman Kriz informed us that there is a glitch with National over some renewals; but he is on top of it, and it will be ironed out.

InterMarque Status: Our representative, Steve Rixen, was present when Andy Lindberg abdicated (Andy's words) his interim status as IM Chairman. Steve raised his hand when John Engstrom was voted in as new Director.

Dan Powell, of the infamous Healey racing group, donated a set of CDs to the Club's media library. The subject matter is of a recent trek by four MAHC members across a portion of Western Europe. Lots of excellent car stuff, from museums.

Newest members Wayne and Maria Buchholz attended. When asked what brought them to join and to the meeting, the answer was quite clear. They had bought a Sprite at a garage sale a week ago, found us online, and decided to see what we are all about. There has to be a story in there.

There was a mention of the Progressive Dinner coming up in August. These are always fun - even more so, if you are driving your Healey.

Here's who was there: Diane \& Geoff Rossi, Wendi Sott, Tom Hazen, Jim Kriz, Gary \& Eileen Wetzel, Dick Mathews, Jim Manion, Kim \& Steve Rixen, Carl \& Betty Stine, Tom \& June Moerke, Dave Herreid, Curt Carlson, Bob Featherly, Wayne \& Maria Buchholz, Rich \& Liz Stadther, Jeff Lumbard, Jeff Johnk, Dan Powell, Mike Manser and Scott McQueen.

## A Dan..dy Idea!

## by Dan Powell

I've been rummaging around my garage workshop and realized that I have some tools and equipment that I use occasionally, but that others in the club might not know about or feel comfortable asking to use/borrow. I was thinking that a section at the end of the newsletter similar to the want ads could be developed to list tools, special skills, etc, that club members would be willing to share with others. I'm sure that other club members would also have specialized Healey tools or equipment that others could find helpful. All that would be required would be a list of items and a contact name \& number... just like the regular want ads.

Examples that I have include: engine hoist (very experienced at removing big Healey engine/tranny units), a bead blaster, a MIG welder, front \& rear hub nut sockets, a socket for the cam nut, a "tranny tester" that can be hooked up to a $1 / 2$ " drill to bench test a tranny, a double-flaring tool for brake lines, and an engine stand that bolts to the motor mount holes rather than the end of the block.

Let us know if you like the idea and have tools / info to share !

## SPRING AWAKENING DRIVE 2011

by Geoff Rossi

By the numbers: 25 people, 17 cars, 10 marques, 4 counties, 13 townships, 98 miles, 4 hours, zero lost drivers, 70 degrees, all sunshine.

The skies were breaking blue and sunny as 15 cars and 21 people prepared to leave the parking lot of the Square Peg restaurant after having breakfast. All tops that could be put down, were. There was concern that we would not be able to keep everyone together for the course of the day. At 10 o'clock we headed north toward New Brighton and Highway 96, where we turned east. On reaching White Bear Lake, we made a quick stop to regroup and get everyone together before starting onto the more open countryside roads.

Once we passed into Dellwood and pushed the throttle a bit, the real enjoyment of the day began. The curves, hills, and dips of the rural roads lay ahead. Our group wove its way up to Highway 97, and then through the small town of Scandia. Evidence of what a great day this was could be seen by the number of bicyclists gathered at the cafes here and the many we passed along the way.

At noon we paused for lunch and a pit stop at the Brookside Grill in Marine On the St Croix. Two more cars and four people joined us. The patio with its umbrella covered tables was ideal for eating and conversing. The sun was warming, and sweatshirts and jackets were shed.

After our bit of repose, all climbed back into their cars for the last leg. Driving out of Marine, our guide missed the right turn and led us onto a clay road. After a quick turn about and adjustment, we were back on course. Another half hour brought us to the St Croix Winery near Stillwater on Highway 36 and County 15. Some stopped to investigate and taste the wines, and the rest dispersed for other events and home.

The day was a glorious burst of sunshine and good temperatures, reaching near 70 degrees. Because of the Memorial Day weekend the traffic on the roads had been light. As fortune would have it, Diane and I dawdled too long at the winery. As we drove through North St Paul at 4PM, the sprinkles began and the top went up. It rained for our entire trip toward the west and into south Minneapolis, but the day had indeed been good.

Happy travelers: Tom Wolters, Eileen \& Gary Wetzel, June \& Tom Moerke, Dale Martin, Frank Howard \& Jane, John Engstrom, Scott McQeen, Mary \& Brian Duoos, Doug Miller \& Lenny Kukuruza, Dick Mathews, Steve Shogren, Andy Lindberg, Jim Gevay, Rod Richert, Karen \& Jeff Sartell, Rose \& Jim Klein and Diane \& Geoff Rossi.




# Healey Hillclimb X - Afton Alps May $21^{\text {st/ }} /$ June $4^{\text {th }}, 2011$ 

By Bob Featherly - MAHC

As I write this, it is raining heavily, setting the stage nicely for this article. This was my first Hillclimb with the Club, so I have no previous experience for comparison. Having hung up my helmet after several SCCA racing years, it was great fun to drag it out again and (along with my daughter Jaci and wife Barb) head to The Alps. We were teased with rain; but after being assured by Tom that "No Hillclimb has ever been rained out", we brought along both convertibles - one with a top and one without.

Upon arriving, it quickly became obvious that Tom and team had put together a very well organized event marshaled by experienced, very patient people who were determined that everyone have a safe and exciting time... disproving the adage that these are mutually exclusive objectives. The variety of cars was remarkable. Who expects to see a Cadillac CTS and a supercharged Little Duce Coupe at a Hillclimb? Antique sports cars (particularly Austin Healeys) were overshadowed in number by later model performance cars, but would ultimately get the last laugh. Why Healeys were so thinly represented at an MAHC event seemed odd; but looking over past rosters, this appears to be typical.

Shortly after the first run, we began dodging some showers... and then the heavens opened up. Those of us silly enough to arrive without tops were reminded just how ineffective tonneau covers can be in a downpour. With everything soaked and more weather moving in, the event was rescheduled for June $4^{\text {th }}$.

Hillclimb X Redux saw outstanding weather; but fewer cars returned, as this was a busy graduation weekend for many families. The good news was that everyone got more runs! 35 drivers made 232 starts during a remarkably well managed and encouraged day of competition. Antique sports car owners wise enough to install modern, wider alloy wheels and performance tires for this event reminded those of us who did not, just how well these older machines can handle in a tight road course. Steve Rixen and Jeremy Fohrenhamm (no familiarity tours needed) launched immediately into very quick runs serving notice that on this day that the antique sports cars would be hard to beat.

As a beautiful day of racing wore on, it looked like the first run of event master Tom Hazen in his remarkable Lancer Evo X might win the day. But no. Jeremy Fohrenkamm and his ' 76 Triumph Spitfire had been impressive throughout the event with silky smooth runs and improving times. On the last run, he turned in the winning FTD of 57.85. The antiques reign!! Steve Rixen, who switched to timing the autocross section after just 3 runs, even bested a Corvette Z06 with his very quick 1957 Austin Healey 100-6 !

Looking down the event timing sheet, it is clear that many very capable cars competed in this tenth annual MAHC Hillclimb. What remains puzzling is why so few club cars were entered. It certainly cannot be a lack of fun... proven every time Eileen Wetzel reached the finish line with her whoops and excited exclamations. Historically, vehicles are rarely damaged during this competition... the event is clearly within a pleasant driving distance... no modifications are required to compete... huh.
..Continued on page 13..



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# AMERY AIRPORT AUTOCROSS <br> AND STRAIGHT-AWAY SPEED RUN VIII 

Saturday June 11th

by Rod Richert
The drive to Amery early Saturday, June11th was way cool! 51 degrees and cloudy in the metro, I pulled on my knit cap and gloves and headed - top down - into the 11 mph north wind.
The weather station at the Amery Airport office showed 48 degrees and a minimum 1000' ceiling for Spitfires--the winged variety that is! Despite the thick cloud cover, the day was dry. It improved to partly cloudy by lunch break.

All day corner workers Tom Moerke and Rod Richert spent their Healey Bucks at the Amery High School Band concession stand purchasing the Meal Deal--hot shredded pork on a bun, pepperoni pasta salad, watermelon slice, chips and drink. NOTE!!!--Corner workers needed for the August 27th Amery Autocross part II-Free lunch and all the snacks you could possibly consume, right at your workstation!

Also helping out on the corners were president Eileen Wetzel, Gary Wetzel, Steve Rixen, Dave Lee, and Steve Shogren. MAHC's Jim Johnson joined an overflow crowd of spectators watching fast cars driven by talented drivers. Eileen, Steve \& Steve competed today--be sure to see their results published by race master Tom Hazen in this edition of the Enthusiast.

The sold out event guaranteed four runs to all and provided a bonus fifth to those willing. Tom reports that there is space available for the August event; but then again members and vintage cars are always given a space to compete. See you there!

Photos by John Vilsack



# Rendezvous on the Red <br> The 21 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous Provided by the British Iron Society of Fargo, North Dakota 

## My MG BGT trip to Fargo

by Paul Gau
With Fargo in the rear view mirror I think of the prep it took to get there. The excitement of a clean fresh new windscreen was suddenly dulled when it took 16 hours and four people to complete the trim around the gasket. But, out from under the car, my wife, Pat and I were off to our third Rendezvous!

During the trip west, a trail of Back to the Fifties Cars was heading east to St. Paul. We were already getting a glimpse of what fun times lay ahead for the British car crowd.

Thanks to the British Iron Society for the terrific venue. They put extra Funk in the Funkhana! (Hope that baby is okay!). We all had to loosen our seat belts on the way home thanks to the fabulous meal planning.

The Man Cave tour was enjoyable. Learning about tires and chrome - great wine and cheese - cars that won't be seen anywhere else - all made for a fun afternoon.

The car show was very well organized. So fun to see the young scouts checking out all of the cars. All the participants enjoyed the lovely weather and good company.

Looking forward to seeing our friends - new and old - in Kenora in 2012.

## Rendezvous Reverie

## by Geoff Rossi

Fargo was the epicenter of a gathering of vintage cars over the June $17^{\text {th }}$ weekend. It was a great collection of cars. The oldest was most likely Dale Martin's Morgan Trike (1932); and the youngest, was a 2011 Maserati. With 120 cars there were many good machines in-between. There was a car show. There was a banquet with awards. Minnesota brought home four. However, the very best of the show was the meeting again of old friends from past Rendezvous; and the meeting of new friends for future meets. It really was more about folks than cars.

Oh, yes. There was another epicenter on Friday evening -- a weather warning for hail and tornado from 7 PM until midnight. There was some panic. Cars were hustled to a downtown hospital parking ramp. The winds blew strong, but no ice balls fell and no tornado ensued. That will be another memory to be joked about later.

## By the Numbers...

by Barb Ronning
Registrations: 127 - equating to approximately 130 cars.
Car Show: Raised $\$ 1180.00$ for the Boy Scout Troop for their scouting trips.
Trophies: The Sweet Sixteen - the top sixteen Car Show vote getters each got a handmade trophy.


## $R$ $E$ $N$ $D$ $D$ $E$ $Z$ $V$ $O$ $U$ $S$



|| $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Annual
" British Sports Car Display | Saturday J une 4

Hosted by Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club
|| At Woodland Hill Winery - Delano, MN
II It was a beautiful day for a drive in the country to the Woodland Hill Winery. Last year was a bit wet, but this was a good day. Around 30 cars of several Marques arrived to enjoy the hospitality of the winery. There was wine tasting of their many choices. Live music was playing while we enjoyed their lunch offering, along with your choice of many beverages.

Minnesota Austin Healey Club members attending included Phil \& Sue Ethier, Andy Lindberg, Dale \& Barb Martin, Tom \& June Moerke, Gary \& Barb Ronning, Geoff \& Diane Rossi, Steve Shogren, and Roger \& Kris Strauman.

Many thanks to the Minnesota Triumphs Club for putting the event together. The location is great and the relaxed atmosphere is a great way to spend a June afternoon.


## Lynch Mexican Fiesta

Date: Sunday July 31st
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: The home of Mike \& Gloria Lynch 6630 Horseshoe Curve Chanhassen, MN 55317


RSVP: Please let Mike \& Gloria know if you are coming by July 22nd
phone: 952-474-5642 email :cmi@cmeters.com

## Cost: $\quad \$ 15.00$ per person

## JIMMY'S CRC MOVES TO MINNETONKA

Jimmy Gaboury of CRC fame has moved his body, paint, restoration operation from Belle Plaine to Spring Park on Lake Minnetonka. Many of us have toured his original site in Shakopee and again in Belle Plaine to see his classics and street rods. They will still be brokering cars as well and will have some interesting iron sitting of display. Jimmy is a great resource for our vintage community and can use some support right now. Stop by or give him a call.

FANATICRAFT 4140 Shoreline Drive Suite B Spring Park, MN 55384 Ph: 952-923-1019 Email: Jimmy@fanaticraft.com


Finally and certainly above all else, this event was made possible by the many club volunteers who spent long || hours (over two days) initially in the rain, then in hot sun, so we could go out and play with our toys.

Many thanks go to Tom Hazen for his tireless 10 year effort to keep this fine event going strong, safe and great fun for everyone. Thanks to corner workers Jim Klein, Byron Peterson, Tom Moerke, Dave Herreid, Barb Waurzniak, Gary Wetzel, Rod Richert, Barb Featherly, Jeff Johnk, Jessica Johnk, and Ed Raschke for keeping us literally on track. To Jim Klein, Byron Peterson, and Steven Rixen for working the finish line and timing the event segments. To Terry Tobin and Alex Donaldson for hauling the huge number of required traffic cones and other

Iequipment to and from the event - twice! To Jeremy Fohrenkamm and Steve Rixen for supplying needed safety equipment. And to the hot flag girls, Ashley, Isabela, Eileen and Wendy, who made it hard to concentrate on Tom's starting line countdown.

We had a great time and will be back next year with our Austin Healey 3000 MKII... probably fitted with more capable wheels and tires... maybe even a top! We hope many of you club members will join us. Your vehicles will smile all the way home.

## Events Schedule

July 3-7 Austin Healey Conclave - (Sun-Thurs) This year the national AHCA Conclave will be in Colorado Springs, CO. Sounds like a great location for the event.
July 13 ** PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 pm. Note second Wednesday this month only.

July 15-17

July 22

July 31
July 31

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, J. Lumbard, D. Powell, or R. Stadther.
InterMarque Movie Night - (Fri) Join your Sports Car loving friends for an evening at the (outdoor) movies. Arrangements by Andy Lindberg.
Lynch Mexican Fiesta - (Sun) 3:00 pm. This is a combined event with the Minnesota Jaguar Club. Always great food in a great setting. See page 13.
InterMarque Picnic - (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.

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Progressive Dinner Announcement - Sunday August 14th
Meet at Curt & Teresa's home in Shoreview at 2:00 pm
2 9 6 \text { Oakwood Drive, Shoreview, MN 55126}
- Appetizers - Curt \& Teresa's 2:00-3:15pm
- Drive
- Main Course - Rixens 4:00-5:30pm
- Drive
- Desserts - Nortons 6:15-7:30pm
RSVP - by August 7th to Chuck and Jean Norton at 651-483-0836 or ah59carm@aol.com COST - \$10.00 / person, payable at event.
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## Events Schedule

August 3 **<br>August 7 **<br>August 13<br>August 14**<br>August 21<br>August 27<br>August 28<br>Sept. 7 **<br>Sept. 9-11<br>Sept . 10<br>Sept. 25 **<br>Sept. 25<br>Oct. 1**<br>Oct. 5 **<br>Oct. 9 **<br>Oct. 15<br>Nov. 2 **<br>Nov. 5<br>Nov. 19 **<br>Dec. 3 **<br>Dec. 7**<br>Dec. 17**<br>Stine I Lauser Annual Tour/Country Picnic - (Sun) Take a short Tour and then gather at the Stine Farm for their annual Luncheon on the Lawn. Foods are always delicious. Brit Fest - (Sat) 9:00 am - 1:00 pm New location this year in Hudson, WI. Watch for the announcement. Sponsored by the MN MG Group.<br>Progressive Dinner - At Carlson's, Rixen's and Norton's. Details later.<br>Hudson Rally - (Sun) An intermarque car show and book sale will be in Hudson. Afterwards we can gather at Moerke's for a picnic.<br>Amery Competition Run - Tom Hazen will hold a second run of the summer at Amery. Intermarque Picnic - (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.<br>PIE Meeting - (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.<br>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.<br>Wheels ' $\mathbf{n}$ Wings/ Morgan-Healey Picnic - (Sat) 8:00 am 31st 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. Afterwards we will drive to Morgan owner John Compton's home nearby for the Morgan - Healey Picnic. Details later.<br>City Lakes Parkway Tour - (Sun) Enjoy a sunny Saturday afternoon driving the beautiful parkways of Minneapolis. Arrangements by Jim Kriz and friends! Details later. Intermarque Picnic - (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.<br>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.<br>PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.<br>Fall Color Tour- (Sun) A Fall drive to Murphy's Landing is being considered. Further checking and arrangements are being done.<br>Couples Friendly Tour - Be out and enjoy the beautiful Fall colors in Wisconsin with our illustrious road event leader - Tom Hazen! Details later.<br>PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.<br>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 exercise for a very good cause.<br>Annual Business Meeting Party - (Sat) The annual business meeting, election of officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Officer's Club. Details later.<br>Planning Breakfast - (Sat) The schedule of events for 2012 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Geoff Rossi will select the site. BOD Meeting will be held afterwards.<br>PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.<br>Video/Testimonials Contest - (Sat) This will be an interesting new event to be held at Dick \& Karla Mathews' beautiful home. Don't want to miss this !

## ** - Denotes an MAHC club activity

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 - 1960 A-H 3000 BT6 Turquoise and White. Older restoration with receipts and photos. Many newer parts installed including 5 Speed Tranny and Mini-lite Wheels. Call Mike Martin at 952-898-1634 or email to ahbn1@aol.com . (5/11)

FOR SALE - A-H BJ8 Overdrive unit. Assembly is complete, but has not been tested. Call Roger Strauman at 612-720-1776 or email to rstrauman@netscape.net . (5/11)

FOR SALE - 1969 Merlyn 11A Formula Ford Vintage Racecar. Call Rich Stadther at 651-698-1981 (6/11)
FOR SALE - 1950 Studebaker Champ 2 - door. Fresh motor. From Wyoming. Call Ed Raschke at 612-331-0082 (6/11)

FOR SALE - Four used original A-H wire wheels. These are from a 19673000 Mark III and are 15" wheels undamaged. Currently with Michelin 165 HR 15 XAS tires, but this rubber is old. Contact Valdi Stefanson @ 651462 4497. Stacy, MN (6/11)

FOR SALE - 1975 Triumph TR6 convertible. White with lite blue interior and black top. 54,000 miles. In good condition, with substantial parts replacement over last 10 years. \$8,500. Call Jim Klein at 763-559-1607 or email: abmake@citilink.com


[^0]:    ## THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

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