



The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XVI No. 6

June 2005



InterMarque Car Show & Banquet

June Events

Wednesday June 1 – Pie with the President

Sunday June 12 – CCA Rice Park Car Show

Thurs.-Sun. June 16-19 – Rendezvous 2005

Sun. – Thurs. June 26-30 – AHCA Conclave 2005

MAHC STAFF

President	GREG LAUSER 715-262-9813 glauser@pressenter.com
Vice President	MIKE MARTIN 952-898-1634 ahbn1@aol.com
Treasurer	SANDY RIXEN 715-386-2880 sandy@rixen.com
Membership & Publisher	CURT CARLSON Box 6844 Minneapolis, MN 55406 612-721-8667 sprite mann@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	GARY RONNING 612-722-8397 gtronning@aol.com
Photographer Regalia	BARB RONNING JIM & BARBARA WOJCIK 651-653-4523 barbara1760@comcast.net
Video Librarian	ALYCIA WOLTERS 651-793-7123 healey100jedi@yahoo.com
WebMaster	JOHN SNYDER 952-929-4792 mnhealey@consistentc.com
Email Broadcaster	DAVE LEE 651-489-3157 dlee@usfamily.net
National Delegate	GREG LAUSER 715-262-9813 glauser@pressenter.com
Intermarque Delegate	ANDY LINDBERG 651-292-8585 andylinberg@earthlink.net
Technical Resources	
Sprite	CHUCK NORTON 651-483-0836
100	DAN WOLTERS 651-793-7123
3000 & Modified	JEFF JOHNK 952-461-2720
Board of Directors	DAVE LEE DALE MARTIN STEVE RIXEN, Chrmn. GEOFF ROSSI JACK STEIN
Web Site	www.mnhealey.com

-- Through the Windscreen -- President's Perspective

By Greg Lauser

As I write this there's a glorious full moon aglow outside my office window. Yes, my column is overdue and it's early morning. I tell myself that pre-dawn has always been when I do my best work. You be the judge.

When you read this there will be just two weeks before our club hosts the 15th annual Rendezvous. That weekend will mark the culmination of a year of planning by a group of dedicated people who are always there for this club, and for other vintage sports car events. I was reminded of that during the Aussie Challenge Cookout May 7 and the Intermarque Banquet May 22.

Jeff, Carol and Jessica Johnk have spent the past year absorbed in what I consider the best international promotion of Austin Healeys – or any vintage British sports cars – during 2005. They've done it largely on their own, with intermittent but vital support by MAHC, its members and other regional Healey clubs. We had a great turnout for the cookout, raised a bit of money to support the Aussie racing series and Mike and Gloria Lynch – as they've often done in the past – organized the event and prepared a fabulous meal for all to enjoy.

Andy Lindberg hosted another successful gathering of oil-stained Intermarque wretches and their patient, often bemused spouses. As the object of that bemusement in our household, it struck me as Andy thanked his planning committee that they're folks who've been so instrumental in planning this Rendezvous and others MAHC has hosted.

He presented awards made by Dale Martin, as we will do in Grand Rapids and have done before. Many of the arrangements, the marvelous selection of foods and counting of ballots for awards were coordinated by Barb and Gary Ronning, as they have done repeatedly for Rendezvous and are doing for Grand Rapids.

With those thoughts in mind, on behalf of Rendezvous co-chair Mike Martin and myself, I want to thank all those who have helped plan this year's event and previous celebrations of our cars. In particular, I'm talking about Curt Carlson, Tom Hazen, Dave Lee, Dick Mathews, Larry Nimmerfroth, Jim Kriz, the Lynches, the Martins, the Politiski siblings, Rixens, Ronnings, Sartells and Steins – many of whom have been working for much of the past year to prepare for June 16-19.

For those who've been too busy to be involved in planning, your opportunity to help host Rendezvous begins when you pick up your green T-shirt at registration. Several of the weekend events need volunteers to assist in maximizing our guests' experience. Learn all about it at Pie June 1, and then volunteer to help make this the most successful Rendezvous so far. See you at Pie and Sugar Lake!

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.

NEW MEMBER

Stuart Johnson of Hastings has recently joined the club. He has an A-H 3000 BJ8. Hope to see him and his car and future events! Welcome Stuart!

Presidential Pie

Date: Wednesday June 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.

Concours d'Elegance

The 2005 Midwest Premier Concours d'Elegance will take place on **Sunday June 12th** at **Rice Park** in downtown St. Paul. The time is **9:00 to 3:00 p.m.** It is being hosted by the Mercedes Benz Club and the Classic Car Club of America (CCA). This is a beautiful event to view extraordinary classic cars for free! If you wish to show your car, there is an entry fee of \$25.00 Call Patti Wendling before June 5 at 952-829-0130 for more information.

Sunday Natter & Noggins

Once again a replacement for the Sunday night gatherings at Sherlock's Home has been arranged. The location is the **Scoreboard Bar & Grill** which is located just two blocks north of Sherlock's at the corner of **Sanibel & Shady Oak Road** in Minnetonka. Time is **3 to 5 p.m.**

Stop by and check it out!

Breakfast at the Peg

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 – and now the cars are out!! The location again is

The Square Peg Diner
2021 East Hennepin Ave. Mpls.

Rendezvous 2005

Dates: June 16 – 19
Place: Sugar Lake Lodge
Grand Rapids, MN



This is the big event we have been planning for well over a year. There are more than one hundred registrations in, and more keep coming. If you have not registered, please send it now to Fran Stein. Wrist Bands will be issued, so people cannot participate in any of the events without being registered. The Austin Healey Club of America requires registration in order to cover the event for insurance purposes.

We will start off Thursday evening with a welcoming party, which will include refreshments and hors d'ouvres. Friday morning begins in Grand Rapids with the Airport Gymkhana/Speed Run. People may opt for printed Self Guided Tours as well. Later that afternoon from 4:00 to 7:00 the Charity Car Show will take place in Grand Rapids. Food vendors will be on site.

Saturday morning the Garden Gnome Photo Rally will take place. Tom Hazen always provides us with an exciting tour. In the afternoon the Lakeside Car Show will occur. During this time the Ladies Tea will be held in the Main Lodge at Sugar Lake. Fancy hats are encouraged for this event.

The evening will bring the Awards Banquet. John Sprinzel, famed racer of English cars, will be the Guest Speaker. He will be with us the entire weekend, so people can chat and listen to this very pleasant gentleman.

Throughout the weekend, there will be Door Prizes, Raffles, Silent Auctions, and Live Auctions. Club Regalia will also be for sale, so you have a good chance of going home with something new!

The Main Lodge is located on Sugar Lake, so people can enjoy other lakeside activities too. A breakfast buffet is available every morning at Otis's Restaurant, and Jack's Bar & Grill is open for lunches and dinner. Both are located at Sugar Lake Lodge.

Conclave 2005

Austin Healey Club of America



Dates: June 26 – 30
Place: Winston-Salem, North Carolina

The Carolina Conclave promises to be a colorful event. Also, the Australian/United States Healey Race Teams will be featured guests.



Spring Awakening Tour

By Mike Martin

A spritz of snow in the air didn't deter about 26 Healey folks from meeting at Baker's Square in St. Paul's Highland Village on Saturday the 30th of April. We were really happy to see Sandy and Steve Rixen, along with Sandy's sister and brother-in-law, for breakfast.

Around 10:20, and after a briefing by Pres. Greg, it was off to the races (so to speak!). The route took us along the Mississippi River and by some very "swanky" homes. Chris and I hadn't realized how many there were. We seldom get downtown, and only then to the theater or Target Center. We must have seen them all (ed. No, there's more!). Drove around Lakes Calhoun & Harriet, then down the mighty Minnehaha Creek. Next, back over to St Paul and Summit Ave. It was a great urban tour. Tom and June Moerke said they hadn't seen some of these areas in 25 years. Greg and Nancy Lauser planned the route, which must have taken a great deal of time. They led the parade in their gold BJ8. Great run you two! We ended up at Awada's Restaurant on Plato Blvd. for a great lunch. I can sure recommend the pot roast sandwich.

Jeff and Karen Sartell were there in their green BJ8. Those rally wheels really are the right touch. Dale Martin had his black XK 150 Jag coupe there with its new gray hides. It smelled like a new car! Dick Mathews ran out of gas (I won't let him forget this) but didn't miss lunch. He said the gas gauge doesn't work. I guess that means you can't fill up the tank.

Dan Wolters and Curt Carlson teamed up in the Cornet Cream 100. That didn't stop them from falling behind, stopping to look at a house, and still making lunch. They must have worked up an appetite cause Curt even managed dessert to everyone's amazement. Tom Politiski had his pickup, so he just went to Awada's. Not sure when he started eating. There was Dave Lee in his BJ8, Barb and Gary Ronning in their "fresh out of storage" BJ8, new member Ron Corazzo with his two sons, Rich Stadther in his Morgan (love that dark green), Jim and Rose Kline in their TR6, Steve Chirpich & Robin Fisher in their maroon square body Sprite. Rounding out the group was Bob Elliott with his newly acquired shiny 1956 Buick. It was a beautiful outing.



Australian Welcoming Party

By Mike Martin

The event we've all been looking forward to came to pass. It was the party to greet the Aussies and get a look at their beautiful racing Healeys. They included virtually all models of Austin Healeys – Sprites, 100-4, 100-6, 3000, and of course the 100S! As Dan Powell and Jeff Lumbard put up the big tent in the front of Jeff Johnk's business building, the rain was coming down hard. It looked as if the cars were doomed to stay indoors, and the event would be wet and cool. Not so. Even though Mike and Gloria Lynch arrived with the grill in the rain, by the time things were cooking the rain had ended. By 2:30 or so the sun was breaking out. It turned out to be just right.

We had 44 local members and 16 Aussies for dinner. Many more showed up for a brief look and stayed longer than they anticipated. Where else could you sit, drink a beer, and look at 20 Healeys. I told Chris I could do this every week. Her reply was "when you go to heaven"! I thought of the odds, you can do this every day if you want!

Pres. Greg spoke to welcome the Aussies and to thank all those responsible for putting the event together. The visitors put up a lot of time and dollars to ship their cars and themselves over here to race. Of course we all know how much time and expense Jeff and Carol Johnk have invested in it too. Our club is very fortunate to have these people and to be able to witness the unfolding of this monumental experience.

Dinner consisted of delicious BBQ chicken and ribs, baked beans, au gratin potatoes, and salad. Mike had some special potions on the meats and lived up to his reputation as a First Class (or Eagle!) BBQ Chef. His assistants – Gloria Lynch, Diane & Peter Griffin – did great jobs taking care of the foods. Nice looking Event Regalia was available from both the American Team and the Australian Team.

The Aussies were a very friendly and cordial group. What impressed me about their cars was the quality. These cars were NOT worn out racers. They were cars you would be happy to have as you're Sunday go to meeting ride. I talked with Rob Rowland of the Healey Factory from down under. He said it would probably cost someone about the same dollars in Australia to get a restoration done, but the quality would be much superior because of their experience, equipment, and craftsmen. He said the cars come out better than when they rolled off the line in England.

I'm glad we all had cameras, because this was likely a once in a lifetime event. I sure enjoyed that sitting around, drinking beer and eyeing those 11 beautiful Aussie Racecars while eating great BBQ. Oh yes, heaven!



Oh, yeS !





Jeff



The Grid



The Tent



Siebken's

RoadAmerica at Elkhart Lake

Editor

It was a continuation of our lovely Spring weather – cold, cloudy, and on again off again rain. This however did not dampen the spirits of the Racers and Rooters at Elkhart. Luckily, most of the race times for the Healeys were quite dry. Not sure if the cars run faster or slower in cold weather, but they sure seemed to be speedy running around the track.

The practice runs were Friday, and the qualifying runs (for position) were Saturday. Jeff Johnk (our illustrious leader) was very specific about running smooth safe races, and there were no accidents in the Healey group. That is not to say that some cars in other races did not have problems. Also the mechanics in the group were very busy with some of the Healeys. Some got back on the track, but others will need to get parts. Sunday was the all Healey race. Of the top ten finishers, five were Australian and five were from the U.S. The Aussies did however capture the first two places. We'll have to see what happens in the next four races!

The big Red & White Tent put up by the Wisconsin Club was a real blessing. It sheltered the cars during rain, and also was headquarters for the group. There were Drivers meetings held there, both Australian and U.S. Regalia were sold, and Awards Ceremonies were in the tent. The Wisconsin Club provided food, desserts, beer and coffee all weekend long. There were many Wisconsin members there, and Leroy & Sue Joppa were serving constantly. Many thanks to their club for the generous hospitality! It was a great time for Healey lovers!



Checking in



A Riley!!

InterMarque Spring Car Show & Banquet

Editor

In spite of the cloudy rainy weather we had all week, Sunday morning was bright and clear. That was just what we needed for 126 cars to show up at the Radisson in Plymouth. It turned out just grand! The start was scheduled for 12:00 noon, but the cars were arriving at 11:00 a.m.. By noon, 50 cars had already entered the gate. They parked on the grass again and were looking beautiful all afternoon. The newspaper ad brought many spectators as well.

The Driver packets had a ballot, a ticket for door prizes, a dash card, a commemorative dash plaque and lapel button, name badge, lanyard, etc. It was a lot to get for the entry fee of zero dollars! Actually, the event is sponsored by the generosity of six local clubs who donate \$100.00 each. The sponsoring clubs are MN Jaguars, MN Austin Healeys, Vintage Sports Cars, MGTs, MN MG Group, and the MN Triumphs.

There were 23 different car Marques attending. The groups leading in attendance were the MGs with 36, the Triumphs with 20, the Jaguars with 16, the Healeys with 11, the Citroens with 10, and the Lotuses with 8. It was a very eclectic group!

After much ogling and talking, 100 of the attendees adjourned to the Creekside Restaurant in the hotel for the Banquet. The food fare included salads, main entrees, and desserts. It was delicious. Andy Lindberg started the program by having the leaders of the sponsoring clubs stand and give a brief description of their upcoming events. (Some were more brief than others!) The drawing for some very nice door prizes occurred for people attending the Banquet. Kevin Clemens author of "Motor Oil For A Car Guy's Soul" then gave a short talk. He is a very interesting and knowledgeable fellow, and his book is a good read.

The winners of the Car Show were announced. The classes were Softtop, Hardtop, Ladies Choice, and Unpolished Pearl. People used their ballots for voting, and beautiful hand made awards by Dale Martin were given out to the winners. Also, Dale had two special awards for Andy and Linda. After some more announcements, the meeting was over. Very enjoyable!



Lots of cars



Andy & Rich

Events Schedule

- June 1 **** **Pie with the President** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. at The Fort Snelling Officers Club located on Hwy. 5 at Post Road - just across the road from the entrance to the Mpls./St. Paul Int'l. Airport. There is always an enjoyable group of members to discuss a variety of topics.
- June 12** **Car Show – (Sun) – The Classic Car Club of America (CCA)** will have a large car show at Rice Park in downtown St. Paul from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you would like to display your car (1972 & older), call Ray Kroll at 763-391-6656 or email to rckroll@comcast.net.
- June 16 – 19**** **Rendezvous 2005** - This will be the 15th year for the annual Lake Superior Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The MAHC is hosting the event in Grand Rapids, MN. See the December newsletter for a registration form. Get your hotel reservations in early!
- June 26 - 30** **AHCA Conclave 2005** – “Carolina Conclave” The event will be in Winston – Salem NC this year, and it should be a good one. The Aussie Race Cars will be there too. Reserve early. For more information, call Greg Lauser at 715-262-9813 or email to glauser@pressenter.com.

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

Presidential Pie

By Mike Martin

Pie on Wed. the 4th of May had almost two dozen Healeyites present. While sitting with a cold dark beer, I overheard many a tall tail. Curt Carlsen said Carl and Betty Stine's car is almost ready, and what a beauty it is. Curt has put in a lot of blood, sweat, and tears on this and I can't wait to see it.

Jack Stein has his BJ8 almost ready to hit the road. Larry Nimmerfroh really has a BJ8 and will drive it to the Aussie Racers Party, weather permitting, on Saturday the 7th. There will be so many Healeys there it will boggle your mind. Mike and Gloria Lynch will be doing the cooking for the party. Don't forget - eleven cars from down under that we haven't seen before. Wow! It looks like a great time!

Andy Lindberg, with the help of Gary and Barb Ronning, covered the upcoming Inter-marque event on May 22nd. Larry Nimmerfroh passed out flyers for the Donneybrooke event at Brainard on Memorial weekend. He is also looking for a few volunteers to be corner workers and enforcement drivers. Pres. Greg mentioned the national membership drive, and how someone can win a free set of 60 spoke wire wheels for recruiting the most new AHCA members.

The group then took on Rendezvous, only 6 weeks away, and a briefing of various areas was accomplished. It appears that there is enough talent in the room to run the country with a little to spare. After the briefing and discussions the meeting ended, and various groups formed to further plan the events and who will do what to whom.

See you at the Aussie event!!

Steve Rixen and Curt Carlson of Strictly British want to congratulate Carl & Betty Stine on the completion of their Austin Healey 3000 BT7 Restoration !



Events Schedule

- July 6 **** **Pie with the President** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- July 9**** **Healey Hillclimb IV** – (Sat.) Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Afton Alps Ski Resort. Once again Tom Hazen will arrange this popular event. More details later.
- July 15 – 17** **The BRIC – The Brian Redmond International Challenge.** This is the big annual vintage car race event held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, Wi. For details, call Jeff Johnk, Dan Powell, or Jeff Lumbard.
- July 30**** **Tour & Picnic** – (Sat.) The MAHC will arrange this event. Details later.
- Aug 3 **** **Pie with the President** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- 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 14 **** **Healey Morgan Picnic** – (Sun) Annual event. Details later.
- 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
- 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 .
- 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.
- Sept. 24**** **Late Summer Drive** – (Sat) A Tom Hazen country tour. Details later.
- Oct. 5 **** **Pie with the President** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Oct. 8 **** **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**

Minnesota Austin Healey Club
Gary Ronning, Editor
3624 - 46th Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55406

First Class Postage



MARKETPLACE

WANTED: AH Bugeye Sprite – Driver or Project car. Call Jack Bacon at 763-479-6214 or email to jackchrisbacon@hotmail.com . (4/05)

FOR SALE: 1961 Bugeye, original car, disassembled, some new body parts, good restoration project. Call Bruce Parsons for details at 763-878-1760. Come, see, and make an offer. (5/05)

FOR SALE: '96 Chevy Astro, all wheel drive Waldoch conversion 100K \$6000 OBO. '82 Porsche 924 Turbo, runs & drives. Needs TLC \$2000. '79 MGB LE, 114K 56K on engine, process of getting paint \$6500. Bug Eye [Frog Eye] parts, many other parts. Club member discounts on tires [er tyres]. Dwight Mc. 763-754-7111 dcm@mnautox.com

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 (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 Ruggeberg at 507-454-5220 Winona, MN (6/03)

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.