

The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XXIV No. VI **June 2013**



Spring Tour visit at Jim Johnson's home!

JUNE EVENTS

Thurs.-Sun. June 6-9 Rendezvous 2013

Wed. June 12

Sun.-Thurs. June 23-27

June 29 Sat.

Sun. June 30

PIE Meeting

National AHCA Conclave

Amery Competition Run

Cherokee Park Picnic

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National

Web Site www.healeyclub.org

PIE

(President's Informal Evening)

Date: Wednesday June 12th

Time: 7:00 p.m. (or before)

Place: Fort Snelling Officers Club

This location is on Hwy. 5 (east of I-494) on the southeast side of the Mpls./St. Paul Intl. Airport. Exit at the Post Road ramp, turn south (east) towards the river and proceed on to the road heading for the park, take the first left and wind around to the Officers Club building.

Come and enjoy refreshments and/or food with the friendly club members, catch up on news & events, and discuss cars & restorations.

Breakfast at the Peg

Come to this casual event (most) every Saturday morning about 8:00 a.m. for great food, reasonable prices, & lots of Intermarque car enthusiasts. It's a fun way to start off your weekend!

The Square Peg Diner Location: 2021 East Hennepin Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55414

Cover photo taken by Barb Ronning

THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation. THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST, is published 12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles which appear in THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST are the opinions of the authors and do not express the position of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club on any matter unless specifically noted. We do our best to ensure accuracy but cannot be held responsible for errors and omissions. Contributions are welcome on any subject related to Healeys, club members, or of general interest to the classic car hobby. Material from THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST may be reprinted in any other publication provided reciprocal article 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 Inc. is operating as a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation and is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America, Inc.

The Presidential Corner

By Suzanne Willodson

May seems to be the month that traditionally kicks off Healey season. The weather might still be a little uncooperative, but the club successfully hosted and participated in a few events this month. We're also busy preparing for Rendezvous coming up in June, one of the biggest events we'll have for years.

While I missed the Spring Awakening Tour and the InterMarque Spring Show in Osseo, I did make it to one event. Despite the wood ticks, the Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up is one that makes many of us feel like we're leaving the earth a tiny bit better than we found it. Greg and Nancy Lauser have a system for organizing this biannual community service event and it runs like clockwork every time. This year was no exception, even though the weather caused us to reschedule from the original April date. We had a great group including Eileen Wetzel's sister, Cindy. And you never know what treasures you might find. This year, Eileen found a highly coveted get-out-of-jail-free card (we must have missed it last year with the rest of the Monopoly game) and Greg Willodson scored a dolphin charm to hang from the rear view mirror (it's kind of icky really, but he kept it). I treasured the solitary wood tick that came home with me (better than the dozen or so I had last year). He died accidently that same night. RIP little fella.

I missed a couple of other events in May as I took a short trip to England to visit family. My mom and I accomplished a lot in a week's time and were able to visit nearly all members of our small family, take a few day trips to the countryside, and wander around London for a couple of days. We definitely benefitted from having retired relatives who love to plan outings. One of our first excursions was to the Popham Air Show, officially called the "Aero/Autojumble & Classic Vehicle Rally & Fly-in" where I searched for Austin-Healeys. Found several quite easily. Greg had warned ahead of time that it would be unlikely I would see any on my entire trip. When I emailed the photos from the show, he replied "Congratulations! You've just seen ALL of them!"

The big event coming up in June will be the 23rd annual Rendezvous. It will be our first one, and we're pretty excited to see what this is all about. There are nearly 200 people registered for Rendezvous and 42 of those are our own club members! The next time we meet at PIE on June 12, we'll have plenty of stories to share with the group!

Until then, Healey on!



Popham Airfield, Hampshire, Eng.



An MG hides right beside the A-H banner!



There were Aeroplanes too!

The Presidents Informal Evening

By Greg Willodson

May 1, 2013

President Suzanne Willodson called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.

Recap of recent events

- There were no Healey Club events in April
- Kim Rixen, Scott McQueen, Suzanne & Greg Willodson attended MAC novice driving school.

Upcoming Events

May 4 – Greg Lauser will be leading a Spring Awakening Drive, which will include a visit to Jim Johnson's home, to celebrate his 60 years of Healey ownership.

May 11 - Spring Kickoff in downtown Osseo

- 9am registration
- Food donations or cash donations appreciated
- Three "special" parking spots for Healey Club
- Other parking will be first come first serve

May 17 - 19 - Elkhart Lake Vintage GT Challenge at Road America

May 18 – Adopt-a-Highway in Lake City

• Meet at 10am at Veterans Highway Roadside Park, just north of Lake City

May 25 – 27 – Brainerd International Raceway

- Vintage cars on Saturday and Sunday
- NASCAR cars on Saturday
- SCCA cars on Sunday
- \$20 to drive your Healey around the course (at safe speeds)

June 6 – 9 – Rendezvous at Grand Rapids

- Volunteer greeters are needed on Thursday
- Volunteers are needed for Gymkhana, Lakeside and Downtown Car Shows, Silent Auction
- Items are still needed for Silent Auction and for Door Prizes

Continued....

The Presidents Informal Evening... continued

Reports

Mike Manser and Jeff Lumbard gave a report of their recent European adventure. They visited several museums while they were there.

- Techno Classica Car Show in Essen, Germany They spent 2 full wide-eyed days here.
- Louwman Museum at The Hague, Netherlands There are over 230 cars, coaches and motorcycles in this Michael Graves designed museum.
- Healey Museum (18 miles from Amsterdam airport) 10 very significant cars and lots of information that can't be found anywhere else on Earth.

Kim and Steve Rixen told us about some of the highlights of their recent trip to New Zealand. They were accompanied by Eileen and Gary Wetzel, Fred Ambli, and Sandie Swenson. One of their stops was at an auto museum near Hastings, NZ, which houses approximately 400 British vehicles. During the trip the group split up, to cover both the north and south islands. Watch for upcoming articles and photos covering this awesome trip.

Tom Hazen called attention to a six page feature article about the Waumandee Hillclimb, which appeared in the April issue of the Healey Marque. Geoff Rossi authored and submitted this wonderful article, which will undoubtedly generate some buzz for this year's event.

Tom also reported progress on his Sprite engine, which devoured itself a few years back. This is great news, because it means he can participate in his own event at Waumandee this year!

Dan Powell brought in an article from **Classic & Sports Car** magazine about Donald Healey.

Jeff Johnk noted a recent library addition that covers the **Prescott Speed Hill Climb** in Gloucestershire, England, for years 1938 – 1988.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14.

In attendance: June & Tom Moerke, Carl & Betty Stine, Nancy & Greg Lauser, Eileen & Gary Wetzel, Andy Lindberg, Dave Rademacher, Liz & Rich Stadther, Mike Manser, Jeff Lumbard, Jeff Johnk, Britt & Spook Johns, Dick Mathews, Kate & Clarence Westberg, Barb & Gary Ronning, Suzanne & Greg Willodson, Diane & Geoff Rossi, Tom Hazen, Karen & Jeff Sartell, Rose & Jim Klein, Jack Stein, Mike Martin, Scott McQueen, Jim Kriz, Dave Herreid, Curt Carlson, Kim & Steve Rixen, Dan Powell, and Dan Gallagher

Spring Awakening Drive Marks Jim Johnson's 60 Years of Healeying

By Greg Lauser

The May 4 Spring Awakening Drive along and around the Minnesota side of the St. Croix River Valley was highlighted by a stop at Jim Johnson's home in Marine on the St. Croix to visit him and the Healey 100 he purchased in Seattle when it was new.

All who were there enjoyed seeing and visiting the Healey and Jim in their natural environment, as well as a commemorative carrot cake featuring a picture of the Healey. After admiring the home Jim designed and built plus the photographs and paintings decorating its interior – created by Jim and Julie Norwall – it was back on the road for completion of the Spring Awakening Drive.

Jim and I had charted the route together earlier in the week. It featured twisting and turning byways that Jim pedals on numerous bicycle rides throughout the scenic area between Marine on the St. Croix and southern Chisago County. He estimates that he has ridden bicycles farther – about 100,000 miles since he began his biking passion 57 years ago – than the Healey has been driven. The odometer on the Healey reads about 67,000 miles.

Those joining the festivities and who dined afterward at the Bungalow Inn included: Jim Johnson, Dick Mathews, Tom & June Moerke, Chuck & Jean Norton, Steve & Kim Rixen, Gary & Barb Ronning, Gary & Eileen Wetzel and Greg & Nancy Lauser.







MAHC club members surrounding the Lauser's Healey after the May 18 Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup were, from the left: Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Cindy Choo, Nancy Lauser, Kim & Steve Rixen, Betty & Carl Stine, Dave Lee and Suzanne & Greg Willodson. Photo by Greg Lauser.

Dutiful Dozen Ditch Divers Cleanup Club's Commitment

By Greg Lauser

Eleven club members and a guest completed the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club's spring Adopt-A-Highway pickup on Saturday, May 18, with no rain or snow complicating the challenge.

Despite a downpour in the Twin Cities, our two-mile stretch of U.S. 61 just north of Lake City was precipitation-free that morning. Those who drove southeast from the cities reported that the skies cleared and dried up just north of Hastings, Minn., and those who arrived from Wisconsin remained dry throughout their trip.

Fueled by coffee and a cinnamon loaf brewed and baked by Nancy Lauser, the group welcomed Eileen Wetzel's sister, Cindy, as a guest volunteer and made short work of the roadside cleanup. Then, it was on to the Smokin' Oak Restaurant in Red Wing for lunch and libations before heading home.

Those making a morning and early afternoon of it were: Nancy & Greg Lauser, Dave Lee, Cindy Choo, Kim & Steve Rixen, Betty & Carl Stine, Eileen & Gary Wetzel, Suzanne & Greg Willodson and Lexie.

Inter Marque Spring Kick-Off

By Greg Willodson



"Healey Row"

The 21st Annual InterMarque Vintage Foreign Car Show was held in downtown Osseo on May 11, 2013.

This was our second year in Osseo, which could not have been more perfect last year. This time around the weather was in a constant state of flux, going from sunny and almost comfortable, to blustery and frigid on a 10 minute cycle all day long. Vendors' canopies rolled across the park like tumbleweeds! As a result, attendance was down from the record high of 2012. There were still plenty of wonderful cars on display and lots of people wandering around them.



Eileen & Gary Wetzel fitting their hoods for the trip



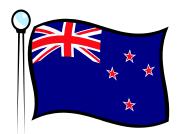
Scott McQueen with his beautiful XKE

The Healey Club had a strong showing, with the following members present:

Andy Lindberg & Linda Larson, June & Tom Moerke, Liz & Rich Stadther, Barb & Gary Ronning, Dick Mathews, Spook Johns, Eileen & Gary Wetzel, Barb & Dale Martin, Fred Ambli, Kim & Steve Rixen, Scott McQueen, Greg Lauser, Greg Willodson, Mike & Gloria Lynch, and Phil & Susan Ethier.



Dick & Spook - probably discussing airplanes!





A Healey Adventure

A stranded 3000 on the side of the road reroutes afternoon plans—for the better.

By Kim Kiser Rixen

We were on our way back to Napier after spending a morning touring Hastings and New Zealand's Hawke's Bay wine district. Touring wineries involved way too much drinking to make driving safe; so we decided to head back to Napier, which was fast becoming one of our favorite places on the north island.

Located on the Pacific coast, the town had been destroyed in an earthquake in 1931 and rebuilt in the Art Deco style. Everywhere you turned, you saw stucco pastel buildings with rounded corners.

As we made our way along Highway 50, one of the main roads in and out of Napier, we saw a blue Austin Healey 3000 stopped on the side of the road. The bonnet was up and two guys were looking underneath, pondering the problem.

Of course, we had to stop. Being married to a British car mechanic is much like being married to a doctor. They're always on call, and when an emergency happens, they're obligated to stop and help.

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"It just stopped running," Tim Waugh, the owner said. "Think it's the fuel pump."

Tim and his companion, Ian Kelly, were on their way home from a meeting of the Petrol Heads Society—a group of car enthusiasts from the area who meet on Friday mornings.

Steve joined them under the bonnet. He wasn't convinced the fuel pump was the problem.

"Out of gas," he told them.

Fortunately, they weren't far from home. So Ian, who serves as the neighborhood mechanic, climbed in our van with us and promised to return with a can of petrol along with his SUV and tow straps just in case.

On the way, Ian promised to show us "a real British car." As we pulled up next to his house, a one-level rambler with an attached two-car garage—a house like you might find in any newer Twin Cities subdivision, we saw it. A 1954 cherry-red MG TF that had been beautifully restored.

We learn that the car has been a regular at Napier's Deco Days celebration and has even been featured on some of the promotional materials. It also made the cover of Air New Zealand's magazine!

Continued....



Continued....

When lan's wife Maureen heard voices in the garage, she and Honey - an 11-year-old amber-colored greyhound mix - came out to see what was going on. She invited us in for tea, as lan took off to rescue the Healey.

We learned that Ian and Maureen were originally from Belfast. They came here in the 1980s for work. Ian worked in the textile business. Maureen was an artist—a painter—whose work hung throughout the house.

As we enjoyed midafternoon coffee and biscuits, she asked if we liked feijoas - a native New Zealand fruit. We told her we did, but that we weren't sure how to eat them. She showed us how to cut them in half the short way and dig out the sweet center with a spoon. Delicious! We wish we could find them back home.

Soon, John, another neighbor, wandered in and joined us. He had two British cars—an MG and a Morgan, both of which were in bits and had been in that state for years. He was hoping to get started on the MG restoration this year.

By the time Tim and Ian got back to the house—with the Healey filled with gas and running under its own poweran afternoon mishap had turned into a gathering with new friends. John and Ian gave Tim a hard time about the gas gauge not working; Tim and Ian pushing John to really get that MG restored.

As we were leaving Maureen handed us a bag of feijoas. Along with the fruit, we took with us pictures of the gang and a lesson in Kiwi hospitality.



John, Ian, Steve, and Maureen

AMERY AIRPORT AUTOGROS AND STRAIGHT-AWAY SPEED RUN XII

Saturday, June 29, 2013 (rain date Sunday, June 30) Registration opens at 8:00am, closes at 9:00am **MANDATORY DRIVERS MEETING 9:00am**



Turn quickly through the orange cones of the autocross, then straighten 'er out for the 1/2 mile taxiway top speed run. Our state-of-the-art stopwatch/thumb system will measure your time on the course, and a radar gun will capture your top speed on the straight-away.

Drivers must be 18+, sign waiver, pass on-site tech inspection, wear helmet (Bring a Snell 90 or newer - we'll have some loaners)



CORNER WORKERS NEEDED! Want to get close to the action but not drive? Like to wave flags and blow whistles? Free treats and lunch provided to all-day volunteers, so call Tom now to reserve your coveted place among the cones.

Directions: The simple route is 94 East into Wisconsin, take the Baldwin Hwy 63 exit, turn left heading north on Hwy 63 which eventually becomes Hwy 46. For a more scenic drive, from the northeast corner of 694, take Hwy 36 East into downtown Stillwater, turn right and take the old drawbridge over the St. Croix into Wisconsin, following Hwy 64 East. Stay on 64 past Somerset and through New Richmond, then turn left onto Hwy 46 North. The airport is on your left before you get to Amery. Mapquest or GPS: 531 State Hwy 46, Amery, WI.









Despite all precautions taken, this event remains dangerous land may result in property damage, serious injury, or death. Drivers, spectators, and workers enter at their own risk.

Advance registration (deadline June 26 or sell out) \$35 per driver. \$20 for Austin-Healey Club members. Make check payable to the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club and mail to Tom Hazen, 11434 Mtka Mills Rd, Mtka, MN 55305. Or pay via PayPal adding \$1 service charge to myliberty@comcast.net. Sorry, no refunds. Day of event payment will be \$10 more.



Year, make, model, color, requested car number:

Email and phone:

Emergency contact name and phone:

This event brought to you by the







Questions? Contact Tom Hazen at 612-237-1883 or myliberty@comcast.net





BRING A FRIEND! Helmeted passengers 16+ will be allowed on all runs.

Events Schedule

June 6 - 9 Rendezvous 2013 - (Thurs-Sun) This will be the 23rd year for the annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The location this year will be in Grand Rapids, MN and sponsored by the MN A-H Club. Get your hotel reservations in early!

June 12 **

PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. Note: Second Wednesday.

Back to the 50's Car Show - (Fri-Sun) This huge annual show will be at the MN

State Fairgrounds again – 10,000 cars...or more??

June 23 – 27 National AHCA Conclave – (Sun – Thurs) location this year is Quebec, Canada.

June 29 Amery Competition Run – (Sat) Excellent test running of your favorite Sports Car

orchestrated by Tom Hazen.

June 30 Cherokee Park Picnic – (Sun) The first Monthly InterMarque picnic of the season.

** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity



Austin-Healey NOJ 392 heads to auction

People submitting photos for the May issue:

Greg Lauser
Kim Rixen
Steve Rixen
Barb Ronning
Greg Willodson
Suzanne Willodson

Thank you!



5995 Highview Place, Shoreview, MN 55126

Events Schedule

| July 6 | Blast from the Past Car Show – All types of collectible cars. Held in Chetek, WI. |
|-------------|---|
| July 10 ** | ••• |
| _ | PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. Note second Wednesday. |
| July 14** | Progressive Dinner – (Sun) – West Side. This year Ronnings, Willodsons, and Wetzels will be hosting this "travelling" event. |
| July 18–21 | "The Hawk" Races at RoadAmerica. (Fri-Sun) This is the super big annual vintage |
| cary to ±t | car race event held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. For details, call J.Johnk, D.Powell, |
| | R.Stadther, or J. Lumbard. |
| July 27 | Woodland Hill Winery British Car Show (Sat) Put on by the MN Triumph Club. |
| July 28 | Lynch Mexican Fiesta – (Sun) At Mike & Gloria Lynch's home. Always great "sparky" |
| July 20 | food in a great setting. |
| July 28 | Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in |
| July 20 | St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments. |
| | St. Faul. Dring your own lood and refreshinerits. |
| August 7 ** | PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. |
| | |
| August 10 | The "New" Brit Fest – (Sat) At Lakefront Park in Hudson, WI. Sponsored by the MN MG Group. |
| August 17 | · |
| August 17 | Stine/Martin Picnic – (Sat) A perennial favorite held at the Stine Farm in Beldenville, WI. |
| August 24 | Amery Airport Run – (Sat) Tom Hazen will hold a second run at Amery, WI. |
| August 25 | Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in |
| | St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments. |
| O 4 4 44 | |
| Sept. 4 ** | PIE Meeting – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. |
| Sept. 6–8 | 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. |
| Sept. 14 | Wheels n Wings – (Sat) Osceola, WI. We assume this long time event will be held. |
| Sept. 15 ** | Ambli Norwegian Picnic (Sat) Take a drive to Carlton, MN to enjoy Fred's hospitality. |
| Sept. 20-22 | Waumandee Hill Climb - (Fri-Sun) The second annual vintage car hill climb will be held |
| • | under the direction of Tom Hazen. Stay tuned. |
| Sept. 29 | Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in |
| • | St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments. |
| | |
| Oct. 2 ** | PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. |
| Oct. 5** | 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. |
| Oct. 6 | City Lakes Parkway Tour – (Sun) Enjoy again a sunny Sunday afternoon driving the |
| | beautiful parkways of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Arrangements by Dale Martin. |
| Oct. 12 | Fall Color Tour- (Sat) Another Tom Hazen colorful drive in the Wisconsin countryside. |
| | |
| | |
| Nov. 2 | Charity Event – (Sat) At the Feed My Starving Children buildingin Eagan. Curt Carlson |
| | will arrange this very worthwhile event. It is an enjoyable and worthy cause. |
| Nov. 6 ** | PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. |
| Nov. 16 ** | Annual Banquet / Business Meeting Party – (Sat) The annual business meeting, |
| | election of officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Officer's Club. |
| | |
| Dec. 4** | PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2. |
| Dec. 7 ** | Planning Breakfast – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2014 will be on the agenda for this |
| | meeting hosted by Greg Willodson at Joseph's Restaurant in St. Paul. A Board of Directors |
| | meeting will follow. |
| | ** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity |

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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 - 1967 Austin-Healey 3000 - by Cal Domke. Address is 224 Golf Court, Cold Spring, MN and cell phone is 320-290-7711. Email to caloiski@aol.com . (4/13)

WANTED - Big Healey parking brake handle assembly. I need a hand brake for my Isetta, so I don't have to place a block under the tire. If you have an old handle with the chrome plate falling off, it would be just right for my car. I would probably sand blast and paint. Contact Rich Stadther - stadther@comcast.net or 651-698-1981. (4/13)

LOOKING FOR A HOME - A slice of Healey history to interested individuals. A collection of various AHCA chapter's newsletters from the early 90s -- Central Indiana, Carolinas, SE Michigan, Kansas City, Manitoba, Northeast, Wisconsin, Three Rivers, Triad and others. They contain classic articles, photos and activities. Also, some local club newsletters from mid 90s -- MG, Lotus, Morgan, Triumph and Alfa Romeo. As a bonus, hard copy MAHC newsletters from 1986, 87, 88 and 89. Contact Geoff Rossi – 612-822-7069 or email casadirossi@hotmail.com . (4/13) **FOR SALE -** 1958 100-6 radiator pressure tested and painted. Some dents from previous owner. 1960 3000 BT7 original radiator was in storage. Not tested. Looks good. Make offer. Email to: tom.hendel1225@gmail.com . (5/13)

FOR SALE - 1975 Triumph TR6, white with blue interior, 56k miles, body excellent, runs great. Asking \$7500.00. For pictures and additional information contact Jim at 763-559-1607 or abmake@citilink.com. (5/13)

WANTED: Splined front hubs for the big Healey, 100 through BJ8. Worn splines preferred, as they are to be modified for bolt on wheel modification. Also - Our dog Bailey seems to enjoy the Healey Marque. He just devours them cover to cover. Therefore I need for anyone who would like to pass along their copies of January and March 2013 to contact me. Steve Rixen 612-877-1938 or email to: scrixen@gmail.com . (5/13)

WANTED TO BUY - Austin-Healey 100-4. Call Tim at 612-810-7606. (6/13)