



The *Healey Enthusiast*

Volume XXI No. 3

March 2010



STEVE RIXEN WITH "THE 5 – SPEED"

MARCH EVENTS

WED. MAR 3

SUN. MAR 14

SAT. MAR 27

PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING - PIE

HIGH TEA PARTY

INTERMARQUE GO-KART CHALLENGE

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National Web Site	www.healeyclub.org

PIE**(PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING)****Date: Wednesday March 3rd****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 !

Bring your appetite !

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

**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.

Presidential Ponderings

By EILEEN WETZEL

Ten Requirements of a Healey Owner

10. A slush fund

It helps to have a Healey hobby fund for travel, eating, buying pretty steering wheels, storage, and towing.

9. Free time

If you want to really enjoy your Healey, you must have time to drive it!!

8. An understanding spouse

I had no idea how much time my husband would spend in the garage working on our Healeys. I was a garage widow for a while; but after our first full season of events, I came to appreciate all his hard work, as it allows us to do something we both enjoy.

If you are not married, all the better. You have the opportunity to “train in” your significant other.

7. Patience

Yes, there are times when being a Healey owner requires patience. Remember, we are driving vintage vehicles. They have gremlins, and parts do wear out.

By the way, my husband is the epitome of patience. When we were dating, he spent hours fixing my Christmas tree lights. 'Nuff said.

6. Knowledge of four-letter words

These may be needed during “roadside tech sessions.” They do not have to be spoken out loud, however.

5. A good set of tools

These will come in handy during those roadside tech sessions.

4. A good Healey mechanic

Just in case.

3. Sun protection

Sunglasses, SPF 50 sunscreen, and headgear (a hat or scarf), are needed to protect you from the sun’s harmful rays. I would like to add that good hair conditioner is helpful, too.

2. Good knees

The Healey is low to the ground....

And the number one requirement to be a Healey owner is:

1. An exceptionally nice personality

This is an observation I have made over the past year and a half while belonging to the MAHC. I don’t know if owning a Healey makes you a nice person, or if only nice people own Healeys; but the two seem to correlate. This extends to people I have met from other states and countries as well. I’m lucky they let me in this club!!!

(Ed. Note: I think the club is lucky !)

Note: These items are just the opinions and ponderings of the author and do not reflect the opinions of all Healey owners. However, if you feel strongly that important items have been left out, please feel free to e-mail me your additions. EW

THE PRESIDENTS INFORMAL EVENING

BY EILEEN WETZEL

In attendance were: Tom Hazen, Jack Stein, Jim Kriz, Andy Lindberg, Liz and Rich Stadther, Jeff Lumbard, Jeff Johnk, Scott McQueen, Curt Carlson, Kim and Steve Rixen, Dale Martin, Nancy and Greg Lauser, Jim Manion, Carl and Betty Stine, Aaron Courteau, Jim Klein, Tom and June Moerke, and Gary and Eileen Wetzel.

We had a lot of information to absorb, consider, and act on at the February meeting.

First of all, we heard Jim Klein's treasurer's report. Jim Kriz then emphasized the need for members to pay their dues. There is a five dollar late fee after March 1st.

We had a new member in attendance. Jim Manion is from Eden Prairie. He has a 1967 Austin Healey 3000. Welcome, Jim!!

There has been a special request from the Chairman of Conclave 2010. A Picture History of each chapter of the national club is being requested to be shown at Conclave in Galena. We will need to discuss assembling pictures of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club (MAHC) events from its inception in 1982 (?) up to the present. Remember that the MAHC put on the national Conclave event in 2001 ! Stay tuned.

Bill Unger of Des Moines has invited the Healey Club members to bring their cars to the Salisbury House Concours d'Elegance on Sept. 11-12.

There was mention of our Facebook page and website and the need to try to keep them current.

We also discussed upcoming events. Steve Rixen will be hosting a Tech. Session on Sat. Feb 20 from 11:00 am-3:00 pm at his shop in Hudson. Sun. Feb 28th at 2:00 pm is the Plymouth Playhouse production "How to Talk Minnesotan", followed by hotdish at the Wetzel home. At the next PIE meeting in March we will have the cut throat "Hot Wheels Races". Be sure to bring your fastest car! Sun. Mar 14th the Rixen's are hosting a Tea - Kim has recipes available. Sat Mar 27th is the GoKart Challenge. If you haven't signed up, now would be a good time!!

Also, a new item was added to the calendar. Sat. April 3rd at 10:00am there will be a tech session at the Wetzel's. The subject being "paint blemish repair" by Carmasters.

March 14th, Greg Lauser will be at the AHCA National Delegates meeting. If you have concerns that you would like addressed, please let him know.

Lastly, but importantly, we talked about the Intermarque Spring Kick-Off May 22nd at Como Park. Although this is an Intermarque event, I hope that all MAHC members take this event seriously. I believe it is the best venue to really promote our cars and our club. Hopefully all members will encourage friends, family, and former club members to attend for a walk down "nostalgia lane".

TECH SESSION AT RIXEN'S

By TOM MOERKE

Steve Rixen, owner of "Strictly British", held a great Tech Session at his Hudson, WI shop on Saturday February 20th. It was very well attended with approximately 29 people there. The session started about 11:20 am and lasted almost 4 hours – ending at 3:00 pm.

Mike Martin's Healey 3000 was the first car discussed. Mike had purchased a Toyota 5-speed Transmission and also the Conversion Bell Housing. These transmissions are currently available from "Recycling Yards". If you remove it yourself, the cost can be less than \$100.00. The Conversion Kit runs about \$1200.00. The 5th Gear in the Toyota tranny will reduce the RPMs at 70 mph from 3700 to less than 3000. It's a wonderful upgrade!

Next, Steve discussed Steve Sjogren's Lotus 7 Replica with a Rotary Engine. Steve S. had been advised to mix oil with the gas, but unfortunately that gummed up the Rotary Engine and the gas tank. Now it needs an "interior" clean-up.

Mike Englund purchased a 1974 MG Midget recently and had it in the shop. It needs a new Master Cylinder and some Valve Cover work.

The Healey 3000 engine on Eileen Wetzel's car runs OK, but could use a fair amount of work. The engine is somewhat apart, so it was decided that they might as well do some improvements and upgrades while they are at it.

Steve also mentioned that he recommends using Valvoline 20/50 Oil in the "old" engines. The benefits of porting an engine head were explained.

The proper way to torque nuts was an interesting topic. I found that you should add the additional torque required for a Nylok Nut to the total torque. For example, if it takes 5 ft/lbs to turn a Nylok Nut and 40 ft/lbs are recommended, the nut should be torqued to 45 ft/lbs.

The star of the show was Fred Ambli's newly restored Healey 3000. It's a knockout, and would easily win at Wings 'n Wheels... and undoubtedly place high at Conclave in Galena! Hope he shows the car soon.

Our thanks to Steve Rixen for putting on a terrific Tech Session! He kept everyone's attention – even while eating donuts !!

Those attending: Dale Martin, George Arthur, Dave Lee, Tom Moerke, Mike Martin, Wayne Soderberg, Jack Stein, Andy Staebell, Dan Powell, Gary and Eileen Wetzel, Spencer Angel, Fred Ambli and friend, Chuck Norton, Ron Corazzo, Greg Lauser, Rich Stadther, Rod Richert, Scott McQueen, Allen Wehr, Jim Johnson, Steve Rixen, Tom Reinke, Wayne Glasbrenner (Triumphs), Michael Englund (MG), Glen Peterson (MG), Todd Jerkness (Mini). (Note: Apologies to any attendees missed)



SPECIAL REQUEST - CLUB PROJECT

We have received a letter from Chairmen Neil Anderson and Bob Brown regarding **CONCLAVE 2010**. The following are excerpts from the letter asking for our help and input:

"The theme of **CONCLAVE 2010** is the celebration of the heritage of the Austin-Healey Club of America 1975-2010, honoring the 35th anniversary of the formation of the modern club. We will celebrate at **CONCLAVE 2010**, the people, the cars, the history of the regional clubs, and the history of the Conclave and International Meets.

We hope that each regional club, through historians or individual members, can provide photos of club or regional events that comprise a cross-section of that regions club history. We request that you help us by sending 25 to 50 photos or more if you wish, plus a color copy of your region's club logo to be used in our presentations. We ask you to send photos of people at events that can include Healey cars, but please, not just photos of Healeys. If the photos and logo can be put on a photo CD, this will aid us in organizing the images on the computer.

If you have photos of your members with Donald Healey, Geoff, Bic, and John Healey and their families, Roger Menadue, or other notable people from Austin-Healey marque history who have visited your area, please send them. These are very desirable also."

MAHC needs a volunteer to collect and organize our club pictures. Please seriously consider helping out. It would be fun to have a disc available for our club members or our club archives as well. Please contact me if any of you would consider giving your time to this project! Thank you. Eileen Wetzel



CONCLAVE 1984 - SNOWSHOE, WEST VIRGINIA
Donald Healey signing autographs

(Barb Ronning on right)



March 27th, 2010
Jaguar Club of Minnesota
10th Annual Classic
Go-Kart Challenge

Organized by Jaguar Club of Minnesota – Open to All Sports Car Clubs

Saturday March 27th. All drivers need to be at the track by 8:30 AM. Mandatory drivers meeting at 8:45 AM. Racing begins at 9:00 AM and goes to 11:00 AM. Awards will be presented during lunch at the Buffalo Tap immediately afterwards. The *Buffalo Tap* is located 4990 SW 123rd St., Savage MN Telephone: 952-808-7317

Sold out all previous 9 years!
 Event is limited so sign up now! Fastest lap times will determine grid positions for each heat. Each heat group assignment will be based upon prior experience. All club members are welcome to attend to support their drivers.



ABSOLUTELY NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION!!



Event is limited to licensed drivers. Helmets provided, personal DOT approved helmets with face shield approved. Drivers waiver required. All shoes must be secured to the foot (no flip flop style sandals). ProKART Indoor Racing does not allow kart-to-kart contact, kart-to-barrier contact or dangerous/reckless driving.

ProKART Indoors – 12500 Chowen Avenue South, Burnsville, MN 55337 – Phone (952) 808-7223

Check out www.prokartindoor.com for detailed directions

New Racing Format again this year – Position Counts!



Participants are considered signed up when their checks are received. No cancellations or refunds. Drivers may find an alternate in event of being unable to drive. Jaguar Club reserves the right to deny participation to applicants that do not understand the "spirit" of the event or have exhibited inappropriate behavior in the past.

For questions call: **David Meek – 612-799-5555**

*After two hours you
will be worn out !*

Cost is \$40 per driver, please make checks out to Jaguar Club of Minnesota.

Send you checks to: **Jag Club of MN, c/o David Meek, 10267 Meade Lane, Eden Prairie, MN 55347**

Drivers meeting at 8:45. If you're late you won't get to race!

Driver #1 (\$40.00 Per Driver)

Please rank realistically, if you sandbag you'll run with rookies...

		Slow to Fast	
Name	Years Karting	Self Rank (1 to 10)	
Street Address		Prior Go-Kart challenge?	
City	State	Zip	Phone ()
E-Mail		Club (or make one up)	

Driver #2 (\$40.00 Per Driver)

		Slow to Fast	
Name	Years Karting	Self Rank (1 to 10)	
Street Address		Prior Go-Kart challenge?	
City	State	Zip	Phone ()
E-Mail		Club (or make one up)	

You are cordially invited to compete in the
Fifth Annual Austin-Healey



GRAND PRIX

held at the regular PIE meeting of the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club
at the Fort Snelling Officers Club
Post Road just off MN Hwy 5, on the southeast edge of the airport

Wednesday, March 3, 2010, beginning at 7:00pm



"Big Daddy" Don Garlits



Della "Funny Honey" Woods

Any vehicle that fits on a standard orange Hot Wheels track is allowed, as long as its sole source of power is gravity. Other than that, it's unlimited! You can run bone stock or modified (fishing weights in the passenger compartment, pennies scotch taped to the roof, etc.) You are free to modify your car between runs, and you can run multiple cars. If you arrive empty handed don't worry, we will have some loaner cars for you, as long as you are willing to sign the collision damage waiver. Cars will be run one-at-a-time by specially trained race officials, using a state-of-the-art electronic timing system (a stopwatch and a thumb).

The top four fastest finishers will receive highly-coveted award certificates and priceless bragging rights.

Questions? Call Tom Hazen at 612-237-1883. See you and your family at the track!

It's High Time for High Tea

DIG OUT YOUR HATS, GLOVES, FANCY DRESSES, SUSPENDERS, WAISTCOATS, AND BOW TIES, AND JOIN US SUNDAY, MARCH 14, FOR THE MINNESOTA AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB HIGH TEA.

WE'LL HAVE CONVERSATION FOR THE LADIES AND CAR TALK (AND VIDEOS) FOR THE GUYS. WE'LL ALSO SERVE A VARIETY OF TEAS AND GENUINE BRIT FARE. THIS IS WHERE WE NEED YOUR HELP. WE'D LIKE EVERYONE TO BRING A TEA TIME TREAT TO SHARE WITH THE GROUP—FINGER SANDWICHES, SCONES, COOKIES, WHATEVER YOU WISH.

IF YOU HAVE A FAVORITE RECIPE, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE IT. IF NOT, I HAVE A COLLECTION OF WHAT APPEAR TO BE FAIRLY SIMPLE RECIPES THAT I'D BE HAPPY TO SHARE. I WILL BRING SOME TO PIE ON MARCH 3. IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TO PIE, YOU CAN EMAIL ME AT KIMBERLYKISER@YAHOO.COM.

LET'S CELEBRATE THE COMING OF SPRING!

WHEN: SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1 P.M.

WHERE: KIM AND STEVE RIXEN'S, 5995 HIGHVIEW PLACE, SHOREVIEW, MN



Events Schedule

- March 3**** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- March 14 **** **High Tea Party** – (Sun.Aft.) The Tea will be furnished, and the attendees will bring authentic British dishes. Hosted by Steve & Kim Rixen at their home. See page 9.
- March 27** **Intermarque Go Kart Challenge** – (Sat) From 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the ProKART Indoor Race Track located at 12500 Chowen Ave. So. in Burnsville. This is the tenth year for the Jaguar Club sponsored event. Awards lunch will follow. Info-call Dave Meek at 952-942-5001. See page 7.
- April 3 **** **Tech Session** – (Sat) Paint Blemish Repair put on by Carmasters. Location is at the Wetzels home – 12605 Resden Road in Plymouth, MN. More details later.
- April 7 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- April 24 **** **Adopt a Highway Clean-up** - (Sat) Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Veteran's Hwy. Roadside Park at milepost 80 on US Hwy. 61 – just above Lake City, MN for the Spring Adopt-a-Highway clean up. Arrangements are being made by Greg Lauser.
- May 5 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice
- May 8**** **Spring Awakening Tour** - (Sat.) "Get Your Cars Out" tour to be arranged by Tom Moerke.
- May 14-16** **Vintage GT Challenge** – (Sat.) This will be the weekend for the Spring races at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI.
- May 22** **Intermarque Spring Kick-Off** – (Sat.) The Intermarque Council will again sponsor the Spring car show. It will take place from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm at Como Park in St. Paul.
- May 23**** **Three Stop Northwest Metro Progressive Dinner** – (Sun.) We will start at the Ronning's in Buffalo for appetizers, proceed to Wetzels in Plymouth for the main course, and end up at Klein's in Maple Grove for dessert. Details later.
- June 2 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- June 12** **Amery Competition Run** – (Sat.) Excellent test running of your favorite Sports Car orchestrated by Tom Hazen.
- June 17 - 20** **Rendezvous 2010** - This will be the 20th year for the annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The location this year will be in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Get your hotel reservations in early!
- June 18 - 20** **Back to the 50's Car Show** – The annual supersize car show at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. If you want to see tons of fancy cars, here's the place!
- June 27**** **Lynch / Ronning Tour & Picnic** – (Sun.) There will be a driving tour in the southwest metro area ending up at Mike & Gloria Lynch's lovely home for refreshments and dinner.

** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

Steve Rixen is...



Strictly British



Parts, Service & Consultation



Email: scixen@gmail.com

Cell: 612-877-1938

729 Paul Burch Drive

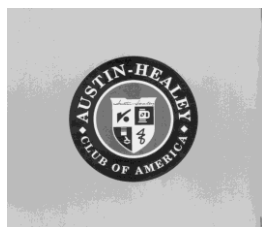
Hudson WI 54016

Events Schedule

- July 3 – 4** **VSCR Races** – At Brainerd International Raceway. Includes Show & Go Drag Races.
- July 7 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- July 11 – 15** **Austin Healey Conclave** – (Sun.–Thurs.) This year the national AHCA Conclave will be in Galena, Illinois. We should have good representation at this event. Reserve early !
- July 15 – 18** **Kohler International Challenge.** This is the big annual vintage car race event held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. For details, call J.Johnk, D.Powell, R.Stadther, or J. Lumbard.
- July 18** **Lynch Mexican Picnic** – (Sun.) This will be another grand picnic put on by Mike & Gloria Lynch. Always great food in a great setting. Details later.
- July 24** **InterMarque Movie Night** – (Sat.) Join your Sports Car loving friends for an evening at the (outdoor) movies. Arrangements by Kim & Steve Rixen.
- July 25** **Intermarque Picnic** – (Sun.) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
- Aug 1 **** **Stine / Lauser Annual Country Picnic** – (Sun.) Gather at the Stine Farm for their annual Luncheon on the Lawn. Foods are always delicious. Details later.
- Aug 4 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Aug 14** **Brit Fest** – (Sat) 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 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 Group.
- Aug. 29** **Intermarque Picnic** – (Sun.) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
- Sept. 1 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Sept. 10 – 12** **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.11** **Wheels 'n Wings** – (Sat) 8:00 am 30th 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.
- Sept. 12 **** **Healey Morgan Picnic** – (Sun.) Enjoy a sunny Sunday afternoon at Herb & Marsha Miller's Bloomington home and browse through Herb's projects and toys. Details later.
- Sept. 19 **** **Soderbeck-Huston Picnic in the Woods** – (Sun.) Come to Wayne's house in the woods for down home cooking and trail games. Details later.
- Sept. 25**** **Adopt a Highway Clean-up** (Sat.) The second of our two clean-ups for the year is to be on this date. Details later.
- Sept. 26** **Intermarque Picnic** – (Sun.) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
- Oct. 6 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Oct. 16** **Fall Color Tour-** (Sat.) Be out and enjoy the beautiful Fall colors with our illustrious road event leader – Tom Hazen ! Details later.
- Nov. 3 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Nov. 13** **Charity Event** – (Sat.) 9:00 – 11:00 am. For Feed My Starving Children. Dale Martin arranges this very worthwhile event each year. It is an enjoyable exercise for a very good cause.
- Nov. 20 **** **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.
- Dec. 1**** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Dec. 4 **** **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat.) The schedule of events for 2011 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Tom Hazen will select the site.
- ** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity**

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 – Front and Rear Wings (fenders) for A-H 3000 BT7 – in good condition – no rust. Call Jeff Lumbard at 952-469-6681 or email to lumbard@msn.com . (01/10)

WANTED – A-H Bugeye Sprite. Good to Great Driver. No restoration projects, no Red cars. 1275 engine and 5-speed tranny are a plus. Cash or trade for a great Citroen2CV. Contact Andy Lindberg at andrewlindberg@comcast.net . (01/10)

FOR SALE - I have a collectible for sale. It is a plastic model kit of an Austin Healey 100-6 put out by Matchbox about 7 or 8 years ago. The box is still sealed with the cellophane wrapper. This is an assembly type kit - 1:25 scale. Call Geoff at 612-822-7069 or email to casadirossi@hotmail.com for more details. (1/10)

WANTED - Big Healey Overdrive Speedometer spindle assembly for 4 speed side shift or center shift transmission. Will consider purchase of complete transmission. Steve Rixen, 612-877-1938 or email to scrixen@gmail.com . (3/10)

WANTED - Enclosed trailer to rent or borrow for 1 weekend to move a queen bed to Northwestern Iowa. I will tow with my truck. Fully insured with experience hauling trailers. F-150 with 1-7/8" and 2" ball on receiver hitch. Contact Curt Carlson at 612-251-7492 or mnealey@gmail.com (3/10)