

The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XVIII No. 5 May 2007

Remember to bring your folding chairs to the Sandy Rixen Memorial Tea

Memorial Tea for Sandra Rixen

All members of the MAHC, MMGG and other Intermarque Clubs are invited to a Memorial Tea for Sandra Rixen which will be held on Sunday May 6th from 1 to 5 PM. The map within provides directions.

Sandy really enjoyed the afternoon teas and events she organized or attended with the members of these clubs and it is fitting that she be remembered at this event, held in the spring, her favorite time of year.

Come as you wish, when you wish. Some of Sandy's very talented friends have volunteered to host the event, so you will be fed and treated well.

Sandwiches by Karen & Jeff Sartell, Barb & Gary Ronning, Fran & Jack Stein, Betty & Carl Stine, June & Tom Moerke, Barb & Dale Martin, Jan & Wayne, Linda Larson & Andy, M/M Mike Manser, Jean & Chuck Norton, Julie Norwall & Jim.

All others please bring sweets: example - scones, bars, cookies, cakes.

Ladies- hats are required, gloves optional.

Directions: Take Wisconsin I94, Exit 4, then on about 4 miles to

729 Paul Birch Drive. (See page 11 for map.)

Questions - Please call Barbara Martin @ 651-436-5902

May Events

Wednesday May 2 – PIE Meeting
Saturday May 5 Healey Works 20th Anniversary
Sunday May 6 Sandy Rixen Memorial Tea
Saturday May 12 Spring Tour MMGG
May 17 thu 20th MOTRAH at Road America
Sunday May 20 InterMarque Spring Banquet and Car Show

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Presidential Polemical Exhortations



By Mike Manser

Hello Healeyphiles...

"Get home before dark". Do you remember the joke from last week. It asked "What is the number 1 reason it is time to get a new convertible top for your Healey." The answer was "You're running out of duct tape." It is kind of funny how things that "go around" also "come around". I was at Checker Auto Parts a few days ago getting some parts for the race car when a guy asked the clerk if Checker had any products that could fix a hole in a convertible top. My first reaction was to turn to the guy and say "duct tape".... However, after a brief moment, and realizing he would not understand the joke, I restrained myself and simply laughed under my breath at the irony of the joke in the previous Healey article and his comment.

I do want to take this opportunity to invite everyone in the club to attend our upcoming events. There are events such as the Intermarque Banquet where Healeys are encouraged but, if your car is not running, not required. It is always a nice afternoon to walk around and look at cars in great condition and other cars in not so great condition...all types can be found. It is a great opportunity to simply enjoy the weather, a cold soda/beer, and the look of great cars. The annual picnic this summer will be a great time as usual because there are many people there just...well...having a great time even though they may or may not have their car with them. There is a hillclimb for those more adventurous people, tours for those who like a slower pace, and...well...nearly one event each month.

Join us for some fun, friendships, and food when you can. "What is the Lucas electric motto?"

THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST, is published 12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles which appear in THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST are the opinions of the authors and do not express the position of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club on any matter unless specifically noted. We do our best to ensure accuracy but cannot be held responsible for errors and omissions. Contributions are welcome on any subject related to Healeys, club members, or of general interest to the classic car hobby. Material from THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST may be reprinted in any other publication provided reciprocal article use permission is granted by that publication. Deadline for submissions to the editor is the 15th of the month prior to the next issue. Classified ads are free for MAHC members, \$5.00 for non-members. For display rates contact newsletter advertising. The Minnesota Austin Healey Club is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America.

PIE (President's Informal Evening)

Date: Wednesday May 2nd 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

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. **Meet in the room added on just for us!!** The location again is:

The Square Peg Diner 2021 East Hennepin Ave. Mpls.



PIE REPORT

By Tom Moerke

PIE on 4-4-07 was lots of fun

April PIE was noteworthy for the large number of women in attendance. It was nice to have so many girls there. They quickly formed a group of their own to plan for the Sandy Rixen Memorial Tea on May 6th.

In attendance were Barb Ronning, Gary Ronning, Tom Moerke, June Moerke, Tim Hood, Dan Wolters, Greg Lauser, Dick Mathews, Wayne Soderbeck, Jan Houston, Jack Stein, Fran Stein, Betty Stine, Carl Stine, Steve Rixen, Karen Sartell, Jeff Sartell, Spook Johns, Herb Miller, Rich Stadther, Mike Manser, Scott McQueen, Tom Hazen, Andy Lindberg, Dave Lee, Dwight McCullough, Brian McCullough, Larry Nimmerfroh, Barb Martin, and Dale Martin.

Andy Lindberg discussed the May 20th Intermarque Banquet and Car Show. A vote called for the payment of \$100 to the Intermarque Council to help with expenses. It should be pointed out that the door prizes given out are really useful items and the banquet is always good, priced rather low.

Greg Lauser excited the crowd with our highway clean up scheduled for April 28th. Greg offered to pay for the first round of drinks at the post highway clean up party and Mike Martin promised to pay for the 2nd round of drinks. This is a true fact as it is printed in this official club newsletter.

Tom Hazen talked about the Afton Alps Hill Climb on June 2nd and the Amery Airport Speed Run on June 23rd. MAHC members get a deep discount on the entry fee.

Gary Ronning showed the club the shirts and jackets to be given to John Sprinzel and his wife at Motrah 007 on May 17th.

Our editor, Larry Nimmerfroh, won the raffle for dollars.

Next PIE is May 2, 2007 at Fort Snelling.

TECH TIP: #4 on a Series About Brakes by Doctor Ernie (Dead Lake Motors)

This is the last article in the series (I think) and deals with brake lines, hoses, and bleeding the system of air.

After giving attention to the disc brakes, the drum brakes, and the master cylinder, most people consider the last step to be more or less a non-event. But quite often this can be the most troublesome part of the whole job.

First let me give you a few tips about brake lines. As you can imagine, brake lines live in the worst of automotive environments. Dirt, salt, and water, along with an occasional road kill creature, can take its toll on lines, fittings, and hoses. So check them over closely. Check especially where the line passes through clips, frame channels, and where they enter the fittings. A line that looks brand new out in the open air can be severely rusted lying in mud inside the frame or behind a clip. The next problem may be in just undoing a line fitting. If it calls for it, always use two wrenches to avoid twisting the line. Use a tubing wrench if room or at least a quality good fitting open-end wrench. If room, a larger crescent wrench seems to work wonders on a stubborn fitting. I don't use penetrating oil, as it can violate the "never use a petroleum product" rule. Sometimes using a flat end punch, in a direction that parallels the line, striking the end of the fitting will free it up. And as a last resort you may have to use heat with a torch. This heat has to be applied hard and quickly to avoid damaging adjoining parts. If using heat to a fitting close to a hose this is critical, as it only takes moments to cause the hose to melt and blow out.

Almost all parts stores handle brake and fuel lines in various diameters and lengths. These "generic" lines are cheap and come with various fitting styles too.

Next about hoses: An inspection of course is in order. Look for cracks, bulging, and rub damage. But sometimes a hose can look like new on the outside but be falling apart inside. Many calipers have been condemned when it was actually a restricted or plugged hose that was the culprit for causing the erratic braking. A collapsed hose can not only keep a particular wheel from braking; it can also keep that brake from releasing.

Now comes the procedure of bleeding the air out of the system. The most important first step is to make sure the brake pedal push rod is not holding any pressure against the master cylinder piston. If this is not accomplished the cylinder will not be refilled with fluid each time the brake pedal is let up. The next important thing is to <u>not</u> let the master cylinder run out of fluid. If you do, you get to start the bleeding procedure all over again. Also, don't spill brake fluid on any painted surface. If you do, clean it up immediately with water. At the wheels end of the system, I attach a hose to the end of the bleed screw with the other end of the hose down below the surface of a pop bottle filled half full of brake fluid. With that bleed screw open and someone keeping the reservoir more than half full, I work the brake pedal its full travel up and down at a cadence of about one stroke per second. After about 6 or 7 strokes I close the bleed screw, then move the hose and bottle to another wheel. This stroking speed is necessary to carry any air bubble on past the high spots in any brake or clutch hydraulic line. I haven't found any particular advantage regarding which wheel to start with, as I always go around to all 4 wheels at least twice. On a completely new or renovated system it seems unavoidable that some foaming takes place. At least it seems that if you wait about half an hour these tiny bubbles all condense into bigger bubbles that are then easy to bleed on out. There are any number of commercial systems out there that either suck out or push out with pressure any air in the system. Some of these machines cost thousands but they pretty much duplicate what you can do with your own foot.

This tech tip applies only to older collector cars; as ABS equipped cars require different procedures. As usual, all disclaimers that any lawyers ever dreamed up apply.

SAFE MOTORING

The VP Report by Tom Moerke

This report is coming to you from the great plains of North America. Members of the Dakota Expedition left the Square Peg restaurant after a breakfast of hardtack and salt pork washed down with black coffee and clear spring water. We traveled west and then south to a large city called Sioux Falls. Now we are on the trail somewhere between Sioux Falls and Mt. Rushmore. We all have survived, as have our cars, so far and we continue our travels westward with high hopes and great expectations. We have found the inhabitants of this land to be friendly; sharing their food and shelter with us. We have heard rumors of 4 giant heads on a mountain top and also stories of huge herds of animals called bison roaming free. are supposed to be large and fierce with sharp horns. All of these stories appear quite fanciful but we shall report back to you truthfully on what we find in this strange land

Healey Works 20th Anniversary Car Show

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us for 20th Anniversary Celebration for The Healey Werks. The event will take place on The Healey Werks grounds just east of Sioux City on Highway 20.

To celebrate this occasion, we are inviting local car clubs as well as individuals to join us for an Open Auto Show with Healey Werks on May 5th. The auto show is open to all makes and models. It will be a popularity show with awards for Best of Show, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. We will also be presenting an award to the club with the most exhibitors.

One of the special exhibits will be a recently acquired Austin Healey 100/S named Millie (name given by racer Phil Stiles for her multiple Mille Miglia performances). Millie's life started as the 1st special test car - SPL-224, as well as the last 'production' 100/S- AHS/3804 and remains in significantly original condition with only minor restoration having been done to maintain its excellent condition.

To participate in the 20th Anniversary Celebration, please complete and return the attached registration form no later than April 14, 2007. If you have any questions or would like to request additional posters or registration forms please feel free to contact The Healey Werks at 800-251-2113 or www.healeywerks.com.

REMINDERS FOR JUNE

Hill Climb June 2 Amery June 23

Events Schedule 2007

May 2 ** May 6 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3. Sandy Rixen Memorial Tea - (Sun.) There will be a Memorial Tea honoring the life of Sandy Rixen. See page 9 for details
May 12 May 17 - 20	MMGG Spring Tour (Sat.) Meet at 8:00 a.m. Square Peg – details to follow MOTRAH 007 – (Fri-Sat) This will be the weekend for the Spring races at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. Morgan, Triumph, and Austin Healey will be the featured marques. Many events are being planned for the attendees this weekend. For more info, email Jeff Johnk at jeffj@centuryrefining.com
May 20	Intermarque Banquet & Car Show – (Sun.) The InterMarque Council will again sponsor the Spring banquet. It will take place at the Radisson Conference Center in Golden Valley. Car show 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Banquet noon to 2:00 pm.
June 2 **	Hill Climb VI (Sat.) Afton Alps – See page 10.
June 6 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
June 10	Classic Car Club of America/Mercedes Benz Concours Event – (Sun.) Very nice showing of Classic Cars at Rice Park in downtown St. Paul.
June 14 - 17	Rendezvous 2007 - This will be the 17 th year for the annual Lake Superior Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The location this year will be at Sugar Lake Lodge in Grand Rapids, MN. The MN Jaguars will be hosting. Get your reservations in early! Form included in February newsletter.
June 22 - 24	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 23 **	Amery Airport Event 2007 #1 – (Sat.) – This event was so well received last year that Tom Hazen and Tom Moerke will be having "two more runs at it" in 2007! Details later.
June 24 - 29	AHCA Conclave 2007 – The Green Mountain International Conclave. The event will be in Burlington, Vermont this year. Looks like a beauty! Reserve early. For more information, call Greg Lauser at 715-262-9813 or email to glauser@pressenter.com .
July 7	Chetek Car Show (Sat.) at Airport, Chetek, Wisconsin mmgg.org
July 11 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
July 14 **	Gymkhana – (Sat) Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Brown & Bigelow parking lot at 345 Plato Blvd. in St. Paul. Scott McQueen will be making the arrangements.
July 19–22	The Kohler International Challenge (formerly called the BRIC) 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 27 **	Drive-In Movie Nite – (Fri) Andy Lindberg is bringing us back to the 50's with this event in Woodbury. Plan to come early and tailgate. Details later.

** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

Events Schedule 2007

August 1 ** PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

August 3 – 5 Donnybrooke Road Racing Revival Brainerd International Raceway

August 18 ** Lauser / Stine Tour & Picnic – (Sat) There will be a short Tour ending up at Carl &

Betty Stine's for a Picnic at their very interesting farm in Beldenville, WI. Details later.

August 25 ** Amery Airport Event 2007 #2 – (Sat.) – This event was so well received last year

that Tom Hazen and Tom Moerke will be having "two more runs at it" in 2007! Details

later.

September 5 ** PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

September 8 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.

September 14-16 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.

September 30 ** **Wine Tour** – (Sun) – We will venture to one of the local Taylors Falls wineries to taste

some of the recent vintages. Should be delightful! Details later. Wayne Soderbeck is

coordinating

October 3 ** PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

October 6 ** Adopt A Highway Clean-up (Sat.) The second of our two clean-ups for the year is

to take place on this date. Details later.

October 7 Fall Color Tour- (Sun.) The final drive of the year to enjoy the Fall tree colors. Details

later.

November 7 ** PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

November 10 ** Charity Event – (Sat) Dale Martin will check the possibility of our club taking part in a

food packaging charitable exercise. Details later.

November 17 ** 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.

December 1 ** Planning Breakfast – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2008 will be on the agenda for

this meeting. Tom Moerke will select the site.

December 5 ** PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

December 8 ** Tech Session – (Sat) – Dick Mathews will check into the possibility of our having a

Tech Session at a local shop that does custom mechanical work.

Events Schedule 2008

June 5 – 8 ** Rendezvous 2008 Winnipeg, Manitoba

June 28 - Aug 3 VELOCITY: the Art of Motion

Automotive Fine Arts Show in Hopkins, Minnesota

** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

VELOCITY: The Art of Motion, by Michael Jekot

FIRST IN A SERIES

In Minnesota there are more than 50 clubs whose member's sole purpose is to share enthusiasm for the car of their choice with like-minded friends. Automobile enthusiasts abound here and they all share one common ideology, they love their cars. To them a car is not just a vehicle or a unit or even transportation it is a lifestyle. From club racers at Brainerd to sons and fathers wrenching together on a Bug Eye Sprite in the back of the garage they embrace the idea that they could not live their lives without their cars. Simply put, it's a passion.

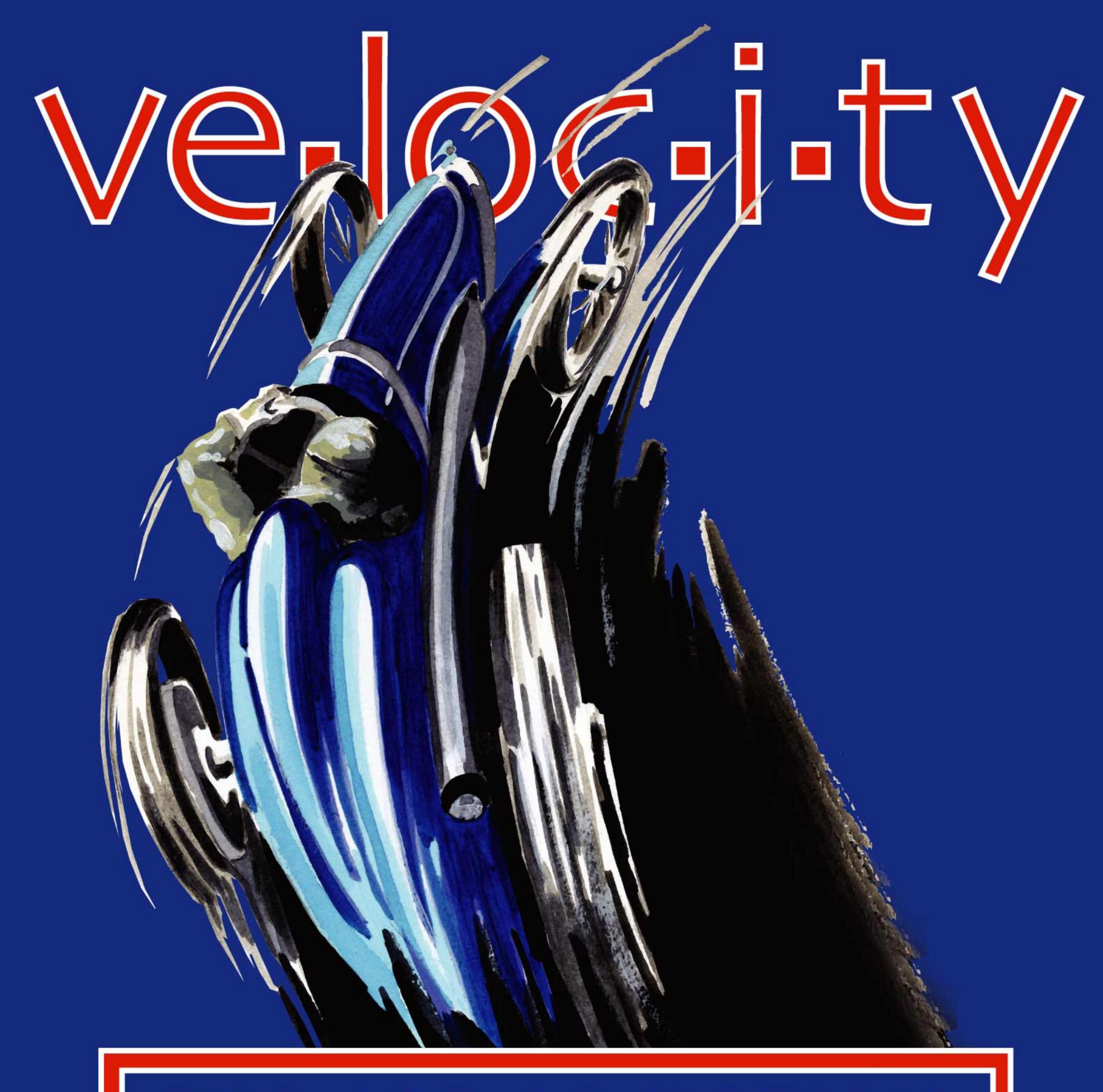
Karl Benz in 1886 gets the nod for building the first practical road going automobile. It didn't take long before someone figured out that there was sport in pitting one car against another in competition. Crowds flocked to city streets as they were turned into racetracks with little concern for safety of the crowds or even the drivers of the day. What was important was the spectacle. Newspapers and magazines of the day covered these events as enthusiasts the world over wanted to read and see what happened at some of the most exotic tracks in the world. Reporters were dispatched to try to capture the speed and excitement of these races.

They were helped with the first practical camera invented by George Eastman in 1888. But, as hard as the early photojournalists tried, they couldn't capture the true essence of the competition with a camera. Instead, artists and illustrators were called on to visually "catch" the action of a wheel flying off at a crucial moment or the second place car zipping past the leader in a flurry of dust and smoke and oil spray. The camera just couldn't do it. A new genre of art was born, the automotive artist.

These early pioneers of creativity brought the world of motor sport to the front page of newspapers all over the world. Readers were treated to strong emotional views of the thrills and dangers of racing. Although technology and modern photography can portray the drama and excitement of racing, there are still men and women whose passion for the automobile extends to paint on canvas and molten bronze into art castings. There are even very creative photographers who have raised that technology to beyond the science of light and silvered paper. All of these dedicated artists have one thing in common, passion for the automobile.

You can see this passion on display in an exhibit titled, **VELOCITY: The Art of Motion**. It will be the largest free to the public, stand-alone automotive fine art exhibition in the United States and the first time such an event has occurred in the Upper Midwest. Guest curator, Michael Jekot has invited an international roster of artists to exhibit and will include original paintings, sculpture, photography and digital media. The exhibition will be enhanced by supporting events including an automotive book and literature fair, a public musical celebration entitled "Cars and Guitars," automotive club nights and receptions. In all, it is estimated that over 7,000 people will see this exhibition which will run from June 28 through August 3, 2008 at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, 15 minutes from downtown Minneapolis, MN.

If there is any interest in sponsoring an event coinciding with the **VELOCITY: The Art of Motion** exhibit there are opportunities. Contact Michael Jekot, 612-940-3534 or email at jekot@bitstream.net early on as dates and special events during this exhibit are booking fast.



THE ART OF MOTION

June 28 through August 3 2008

Hopkins Center for the Arts

hopkinsartscenter.com

Healey Hillclimb VI Saturday, June 2, 2007

(rain date Sunday, June 3)

Afton Alps Recreation Area

The Minnesota Austin-Healey Club invites you to **TAKE THE HILL!** Hillclimbs enjoy a proud place in the history of European motor sports. Now you can be part of that tradition and make history with your own run **TO THE TOP!**

On-site check in opens 7:00am, closes 8:30am MANDATORY drivers meeting at 8:30am

Advance registration only - Payment required in advance!

Drivers must be 18+, sign waiver, pass on-site tech inspection, wear helmet (Bring Snell 85 or newer. We'll have some loaners)

Vintage Race Car Exhibit by our friends: See pre- and post-war track classics!



CORNER WORKERS NEEDED! Want to get close to the action but not drive? Like to wave flags and blow whistles? Free treats provided to all volunteers, and those who stay 8am to 5pm will receive a free buffet lunch! Space is limited, so call Tom now to reserve your coveted place among the cones.

Directions: I 94 East past St. Paul, take exit 253 and turn right onto Manning Ave/Hwy 95. After 6.8 miles turn left onto 70th Street. After 3.5 miles turn left into the Afton Alps complex.

Advance registration required! (deadline May 31) \$40 per driver. \$25 for Austin-Healey Club members. Make check payable to the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club and mail to Tom Hazen, 130 East 18th Street #202, Mpls, MN 55403. Or pay via PayPal adding \$2 service charge to myliberty@comcast.net. Sorry, no refunds.

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

Driver

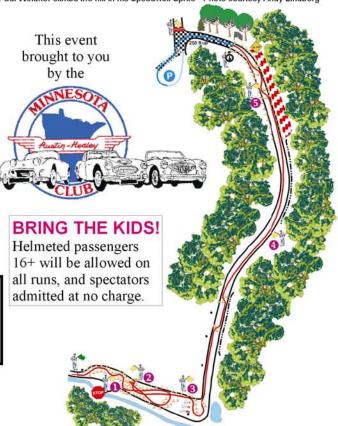
Year, make, model, color, requested car number

Email and phone

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



Paul Weidner climbs the hill in his Speedwell Sprite - Photo courtesy Andy Lindberg



The course is entirely paved and consists of a 1/3 mile autocross section at the bottom of the hill with several tight turns and a back-up maneuver followed by a hill-climb section that rises 250 feet in just over 1/3 mile. Drivers will run in the order their paid registrations are received. We will try to give everyone four runs, more if time permits. From 12:30 to 1:30 we will take a break to enjoy the optional barbeque buffet luncheon served in the ski chalet (\$10 cash or check, pay at the buffet).

Free breakfast treats provided by the

Square Peg Diner

2021 East Hennepin · Mpls · 612-378-0855 www.squarepegdiner.com

SEE YOU ON THE HILL!

Memorial Tea for Sandra Rixen

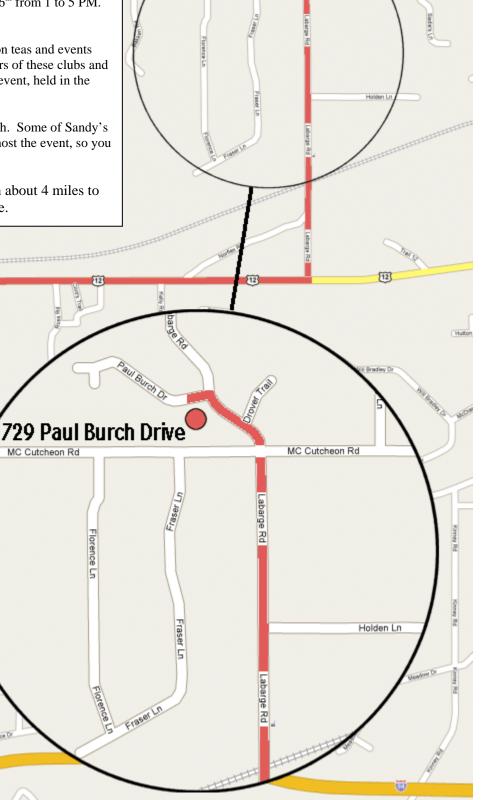
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Sandy really enjoyed the afternoon teas and events she organized or attended with the members of these clubs and it is fitting that she be remembered at this event, held in the spring, her favorite time of year.

Come as you wish, when you wish. Some of Sandy's very talented friends have volunteered to host the event, so you will be fed and treated well.

Take Wisconsin I94, Exit 4, then on about 4 miles to 729 Paul Burch Drive.

MC Cutcheon Rd



Minnesota Austin Healey Club Larry Nimmerfroh, Editor 6554 Kingfisher Lane Eden Prairie, MN 55346

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MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE – '67 blue over white totally reconditioned BJ8 with Toyota 5 speed. Everything either new or rebuilt. Asking \$35,000.00. Jack Stein 651-445-6220 or jbeerstein@comcast.net. (2/07)

FOR SALE – '63 BJ-7 solid two owner car w/older restoration, metallic silver/black interior, new radials, converted to neg. ground w/ electronic ignition. \$24,000 firm Dennis @ 612-518-0700 (4/07)

FOR SALE – 1958 AH 100-Six. I have had "Happy" for 10 years and will not get to the refurbishment soon, so need to sell. Standard Longbridge model, with disc wheels and no overdrive. "Black plate" California car. NO Rust! (Really). Factory hardtop. Runs and drives good - engine, trans, and suspension, and interior worn. Never apart, so doors fit great! \$13.5K to club member. Tom P. Healeymog@yahoo.com (4/07)

FOR SALE -- Five Dunlop (Classic Range) Road Speed RS5 6.70H15 tires with tubes. Three years old. One, zero miles, four, 3K miles. Current list in Canada \$394.14(C) each, and not very available. Correct look and feel for many 1960s British cars. All five \$600.

George Arthur <u>garthur1660@comcast.net</u> 651-436-3227 (5/07)

For Sale -- 1959 Sprite BRG, Runs, drives, started right up this spring, have driven around the block, 948CC, Electric fuel pump, new radials, Electronic ignition, one piece roll bar, cloth windows only made for a few months, rebuilt engine, lots of extra parts, and original parts kept, Two kids, time to move on. \$7000 I think.

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.