



The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XXVIII No. XI

Nov 2017



**Beautiful Cars...Beautiful Setting...
At the Dawson Fall Patio Party !**

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Wed.	Nov. 1	PIE Meeting
Sat.	Nov. 11	Annual Banquet

MAHC STAFF

President	DAVE HATZUNG 952-922-3246 dave@hatzunginsurance.com
Vice President	PHIL DAWSON 612-721-8667 stephil1972@hotmail.com
Treasurer	STEVE GREENWAY smgreenway1@gmail.com
Membership	JIM KRIZ 612-377-2277 jkriz1@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	GARY RONNING 1019 Ridge Haven Circle Buffalo, MN 55313 763-684-4041 gtronning@gmail.com
Video Librarian	JEFF JOHNK 952-461-2720 jeffj@centuryrefining.com
WebMaster	JOHN SNYDER 952-929-4792 jvs@consistenc.com
Email Broadcaster	DAVE LEE 715-651-2479 dlee@usfamily.net
Name Tags	GREG WILLODSON greg.willodson@gmail.com
National Delegate	EILEEN WETZEL 763-541-9571 econlon@hotmail.com
Intermarque Delegate	SUZANNE WILLODSON 763-390-4133 suzanne.willodson@gmail.com
Regalia	GARY RONNING 763-684-4041 gtronning@gmail.com
Technical Resources	
Sprite	PAUL GAU 952-933-7277
100	CURT CARLSON 612-251-7492
3000 & Modified	JEFF JOHNK 952-461-2720
Jensen Healey	TOM POLITISKI 218-367-2168
Board of Directors	ANDY LINDBERG STEVE RIXEN GEOFF ROSSI RICH STADTHER SUZANNE WILLODSON, Chair.
Minnesota Web Site	www.mnhealey.com
National Web Site	www.healeyclub.org

President's **I**nformal **E**vening

Date: Wednesday Nov 1
Time: 7:00 p.m. (or before)
Place: Joseph's Grill
140 So. Wabasha
St. Paul, MN 55107
651-222-2435

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

Thank You

To the members that submitted news, articles, and photos for this newsletter issue:

Dave Hatzung
Sue Greenway
Fred Ambli
Barb Ronning
Steve Rixen

Dick Leininger
Phil Dawson
Jennie Anderson
Betty Stine
Dave Herreid

Current and past newsletters:

<http://www.mnhealey.com/mnhealey/newsletter.htm>

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.

President Dave Hatzung's
Very Presidential Column

As things begin to wind down for this "car-year", I just had some random thoughts for this month's column. I've already started to make my list of what work needs to be done over the winter re: my 3000. The Spriterod, or Ratsprite, or whatever I feel like calling it, is in storage in my Nephew's shed and may get some work done on it later this winter. Regarding that story, **Mark Brandow** of **Quality Coaches**, very generously offered me a "rolling chassis" Sprite for \$500 that is in good enough condition to warrant putting some kind of an engine in - if we can find one that would work.

For mid-October, last Friday the 20th, was a beautiful fall day; so Mary and I took a ride in the Jag XK8 to Hudson, WI. We had a wonderful dinner at the Pier 5 Restaurant and saw some spectacular fall colors along the way there and back.

Life is tough when one of a person's major problems is getting into your car and having an "Alzheimer's moment". By that I mean, which knob or button turns the radio on in this car (or does this car even have a radio?), or where's that A/C or light switch, or how do I turn on the wipers? How about the garage door opener...dang, I forgot that in the other car!

Met an interesting person last week - **Nate Smith**. He was at our home doing some work for us. We were talking and "somehow" the talk turned to cars. I ended up showing him my Healey. Turns out he loves cars! He just sold his Mustang GT and bought a '99 Miata. I told him that's quite a switch. He went on and on about how much more of a fun driving experience the Miata provided - the cornering and handling, etc. I think most of us with sport cars know the difference, and now this young man was experiencing it himself! I told him about how much fun we had in the Healey club and how we sponsored the autocrosses and the Waumandee Hillclimb. I invited him to stay in touch and join us at those events next summer. I also gave him one of our MAHC business cards, which is actually the first one I've handed out. This brings up the reason I share this story. It is important and perhaps imperative that we share our car experiences with the younger generations. For our club to survive and for our cars to not end up worth hardly anything, we better get some of our kids interested in these cars and this sport. It brought back what **Eileen Wetzel** did a while ago, when she shared the story about the day she let her boss drive her Healey. So...keep some of the Healey business cards handy, and don't forget to promote our cars and our sport whenever you get the chance.

Our Annual Banquet/Business Meeting Party is coming up on Saturday, November 2nd, so be sure that it's on your calendar. Please start thinking of fun items to bring in for the Silent Auction. Also, let me or any of the board members know if you'd be interested in serving the club as an Officer or Board member.

The Presidents Informal Evening

By Phil Dawson

PIE convened at 7:09 pm. It was noted that there were no new members present. The meeting started with the announcement that Dale Martin had passed away. Talks began of the many talents Dale had - including wood turning and making wood trophies - and all the work that he did at the Saturday breakfast at Elsie's Restaurant.

The travelers to Monterey, CA were back—which included Dave & Daphne, Greg & Nancy, and Eileen & Gary (Fred & Sandie also attended). Eileen stood up and talked, saying that the journey was just as amazing as Monterey was. Just after arriving in Monterey and washing their cars, the thunderstorms came in. Thankfully that was the only rain they saw during the entire event. Eileen also reported that there were over 200 cars registered - with 12 from Australia!

Greg Lauser shared that they had driven a total of 7,890 miles round-trip (and that he had great company the whole way!) with only one car issue the entire time! The issue was quickly and accurately diagnosed by Steve Rixen via telephone. Steve said "well, it sounds like an ignition wire detached" and, in fact, that's exactly what it was. Greg said his best travel advice is to always ask the locals where there is a good place to eat. When you stop at a gas station, they ALWAYS tell you the best places! After breakfast they found an ignition specialist in Port Angeles, who quickly fixed the issue; and away they went. (There were reports that Fred's towing vehicle had some transmission issues, too.)

Some of the beautiful spots that they noted along the way were Ouray to Silverton in Colorado, Spearfish Road in South Dakota, and (of course) the 17 mile drive up to Monterey. Lauser's added comments about their travels through Wyoming and Yellowstone Park. The snow there prevented them from reaching Crater Lake. They were also at Yosemite Park in California nine days before the big rock collapse.

All in all, it was said that the San Francisco Golden Gate Club hosted a wonderful event and the venue was excellent. It was highly recommended, if the opportunity to attend this event occurs next year.

Dave and Daphne said that they had quite a few adventures themselves, 😊 and it was noted that all four cars from Minnesota were cars that Steve Rixen had worked on.

Dan Powell talked about the Fall Vintage Races. Jeff had transmission problems and Dan couldn't get the right carburetion set. Scott and Rich didn't have any issues.

Continued...

The Presidents Informal Evening (continued)

Tom Hazen gave an update on the Waumandee Hillclimb. There were 32 cars registered, and it was the hottest temperature for the event ever, with 102° in Alma. The two tops racers were 2/10 of a second apart. Only one car spunout--which occurred at the top of the hill. There were some radio issues, but happily they were solved. It is planned to be back on Blank Hill next year.

The Intermarque Picnic in October was hosted by the French club with great food!

Last event of the month was Dawson's Fall Patio (or as Dave likes to call it, Polio) Party. 😊
It was noted that there was plenty of good food, great weather, great cars, and dancing !

Upcoming events include this Saturday's Cars and Caves in Chanhassen, MN.

Dave Herreid stood up and talked about the highway cleanup this Saturday at 9 am in Lake City. He discussed having different donuts from last year and lunch would be at King's Roadhouse in Miesville with no rain date.

10/14 marks the Fall Color Run--meeting up in Hudson (RSVP by this Saturday). 10/28 Dick Mathews will be showcasing his model train layout with an open house starting at 1pm. The layout (16' x 36') is housed on the second level of a garage located in South Minneapolis.

Suzanne announced an import car event and microbrew "Bauhaus" over by Broadway and Central on 10/12 at 6 pm. They're hoping to make it a monthly event.

Saturday November 11 marks the Annual Banquet. Auction items are welcome for the silent auction. The Banquet is just \$15 per person (with the club subsidizing the balance).

Saturday December 2 is the Planning Session Breakfast for 2018 - the cost just \$5 per person.

Committee Reports--

Jim Kriz noted that we have 92 paid members. Treasurer was not present at the meeting, Jeff Johnk said to just help yourself to the video library and to let him know when you return something. Greg Willodson said to send any photos to him for updating the website membership report. Eileen noted that the AHCA national delegates are meeting the same weekend as the banquet, so she will not be present. She is looking for comments to take back to the delegates meeting. Eileen would like to suggest the Black Hills location for Conclave 2019 (September 9-13) and wanted feedback from the club before the national delegates meet.

The meeting ended much like it began--with warm stories about Dale Martin. Tom Politiski repeated a joke that he had spent some time rehearsing with Dale, so that Dale could tell it at his high school reunion. The joke involved a talking frog, a kiss and an 80 year old man...and a wise choice.

The meeting closed at 8:02pm

Dawson's Fall Patio Party

By Betty Stine

It was a wonderful fall day on Saturday, September 30 when Phil and Stephanie Dawson hosted a beautiful party on the grounds of their lovely country home. Utilizing their unbelievable outdoor kitchen as a staging area, the food offered was a wide variety of hors d'ouvres. Some of those delights consisted of bacon wrapped stuffed dates, water chestnuts, jalapenos, stuffed mushrooms, drummies, plus crab and sausage Rangoons - all of which Phil prepared in their snazzy outdoor oven.

There was a board of imported cheeses and meats, along with a variety of dips and spreads that tempted the palate of every guest. Then to top it off, there was cheesecake -- five different varieties ! Delicious...

Wine and beer flowed while the 50 or more guests enjoyed the music provided by the Riddle Brothers Band. It was so good, in fact, that some couples could not resist the urge to "trip the light fantastic".

This was truly one of the best get together events of the season, and our thanks go to Phil and Stefanie for hosting such an enjoyable event.



Adopt-A-Highway ~The Fall Edition~

By Dave Herreid

As a newbie in managing the MAHC Adopt-A Highway event, a learning curve is to be expected. On such a curve one may witness a rapture, a chill, or possibly a manifest holy #@ mother of #88!

In the heat of the moment “that curve” demands respect. Recently an Adopt-A-Highway event coincided with a major deluge. Not knowing what to do, I embraced denial. At the appointed hour/downpour (a soggy Mexican pastry in one hand, a weather app in the other) it was decided that the three (soon to be 4 of us) would attempt to pick-up the highway while hoping to dodge the rain along the way. Mercy masquerading as Luck is always a welcome companion. So, this Fall’s highway pick-up was tended under dry skies. The rainy nastiness only resumed on the way to King’s in Miesville. With that particular curve behind us, and an MAHC provided burger within reach, I believe a collective “whew” was uttered by all. No doubt it was in the glow of a job well done...wet feet be damned.

Thanks to my compadres; Greg Lauser, Suzanne Willodson, Tom Wolters.....
and Lady Luck!



Fall Colour Tour

Saturday October 14th dawned sunny and warm, and Diane & Steve Rindt had a beautiful drive through the Wisconsin countrysides all planned. We met in Hudson, got the directions, and proceeded South. There were over thirty cars, which were broken up into two groups.

The tree colors could not have been greater – perfect timing. The curvy up and down roads were in great shape – no detours ! The cars hung together casually, so it was an easy drive. Some people stopped here and there, but most found their way down to Fountain City for lunch.

The destination was the Monarch Public House. Looked to be an old establishment, but was very clean with a beautiful vintage bar. The food was very good and reasonable. The refreshments were great – made at the old-time bar by the restaurant owner (I think)! Lots of conversation followed until it was time to go. Unfortunately the weather had changed, and a light rain started on the way home. It was a very pleasant way to close out our driving season. Many thanks to Diane and Steve !

Healey club members attending: Phil & Stefanie Dawson, Steve & Ann Shogren, Tom Wolters, Rose & Jim Klein, June & Tom Moerke, Barb & Gary Ronning, and Steve & Diane Rindt.

Editor



Gathering to start and receiving directions from Diane Rindt.

Fall Colour Tour



Beautiful scenery, a great place to dine, and good company – driving favorite cars !!





Mathews Model Railroad Layout

On Saturday afternoon October 28th, we had the opportunity to see a 15 year labor of love come alive. Dick Mathews has had a love for trains – both the full size and the miniature size – for most of his life. As with the details of automobiles and their history, he can recite the same kind of statistics for trains – both large and small. He is really pleased to have met his goal of having a working layout for the locomotives, rolling stock, buildings, track, and hardware that he has been assembling for years. We are really pleased that he invited us to come see it.

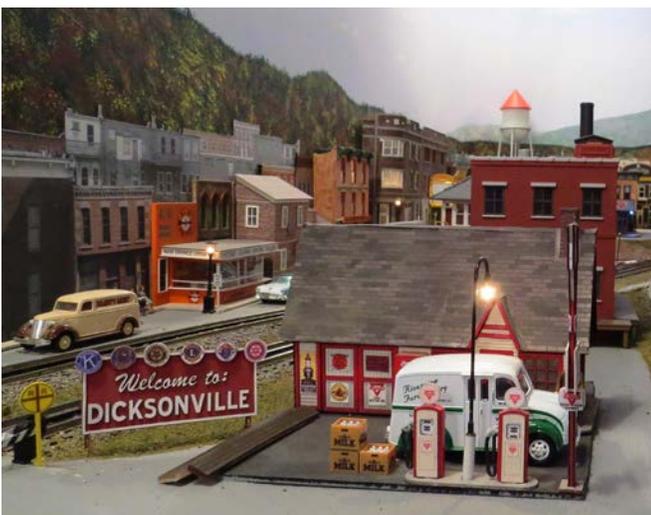
The train bed is waist high and higher to make it more accessible to work on. There are a few different levels for the trains to navigate, as well as many bridges to cross. There are limits on the amount of change to the levels (or grade), as the trains cannot climb steep slopes. The size of the layout is 16' by 36', which allows for (and demands) a lot of track, landscape, and buildings. Some of the buildings are from kits that were made, but many of them are deftly made from scratch using plans from model railroading magazines. Dick has plenty of all !

These are O Gauge trains, which are a bit larger than the old Lionel types, and they have more authentic detailing. A mixture of the old steam type locomotives as well as the more current diesel types is present – and there are many ! There are both freight and passenger cars (rolling stock). The power does not come from the old transformers, but is run by electronics now. This allows for more options when operating, as well as for signage, crossing lights, and other things requiring illumination.

Karla was in charge of the refreshments and goodies as we entered. Club members are always ready to snack and sip when assembling for an event. It was a very unique opportunity for us to see and try to appreciate all the work that Dick put in to this project. It is truly beautiful and fun at the same time. Many thanks to Dick and Karla for inviting us to witness this wonderful assemblage.

GTR

Trains, Trains, Trains.....



Tech Tip for October / November

By Steve Rixen

October is the month to at least think about Winter Storage of our Healeys.

Probably the most important procedure is to Change the Oil and Filter. Do NOT wait and change the oil in the spring. The combustion process creates carbon deposits in the oil. These carbon deposits combine with water, another byproduct of combustion creating acids which will etch and erode the internal surfaces of your engine all winter long.

If, for example, you go on the Fall Colour Tour and it is the last time you will drive until spring, immediately dump the warm oil and remove the filter (check that the gasket comes with it).

Refill the crankcase with the recommended oil (usually 20W-50 with zinc and phosphorus additive for our flat tappet cams). If you have a modern spin-on filter, fill the filter using one of the quarts while the others are being poured into the crankcase. If you have the stock filter, remove the filter body and clean it insuring the spring, filter plate, cartridge and gaskets are installed per the manual.

PLEASE NOTE: The process of filling the crankcase with the spin-on filter NOT installed is important. There is a check valve built into the spin-on filter which will 'air lock' and not allow the fresh oil to enter the oil pump if the filter is installed before the oil is filled.

After the oil is filled, install the mostly oil-filled spin-on filter. Disconnect the White wire with the Black Stripe from the coil to distributor (stock ignition system) so the engine will not fire. Run the starter until you see oil pressure register on the gage. Once the engine shows oil pressure, reconnect the wire, start the engine and verify there are no leaks at the filter or drain plug.

NOTE: If your engine oil pump pressure will not come up with about 15 to 20 seconds on initial crank and you have a spin-on filter, unscrew it until it is not firmly against the adapter, then crank the engine while watching for oil to flow out. When oil does flow out, immediately re-tighten the filter and then crank it again until oil pressure registers on the gage. Once it does, reconnect the wire and start the engine.

After the engine has passed the leak check, drive for a few miles (fill with fuel) to thoroughly dilute any old oil which remained in the engine, then park it for the winter, and disconnect the battery.



This is the acid eroded surface of a tappet showing the disintegration of the face where it rides on the cam.

Cooling Tech Tip

By Steve Rixen

Ethylene Glycol is the most popular chemical used to keep your engine block and cooling system from turning into an (cracked) ice cube in winter. It comes in green or red and it carries chemical additives which aid in preventing rust and corrosion year round. Unfortunately for our pets and kids, it also has a 'sweet' taste which is found attractive to the unwary and can be ingested in a quantity which will cause injury, long term organ damage, or death.



Propylene glycol anti-freeze is also available which is no less injurious to living things, but it does not have the attractive sweet taste of ethylene glycol. Prestone Lo-Tox is the one brand name I could find available, carried by some O'Reilly Auto Parts stores. My local store ordered a case, of which I purchased a number of gallons.



A 50/50 mix of concentrated antifreeze and water, (distilled is best) will give -34° F freeze protection for Ethylene and -32° for Propylene. If you decide to use a Low Tox type of anti-freeze, you will need to also update your tester to one made for propylene. The picture is of a propylene tester (green bulb). If it were a ethylene version it would have a black bulb.



Modern antifreeze serves another function in that it inhibits corrosion of steel and aluminum parts by having what is termed 'reserve alkalinity' (RA). Test strips which test the amount of 'reserve alkalinity' are available at your local auto parts store or can be found at website like Amazon.com in various quantities. By dipping these strips in your radiator fluid you will find a pad portion of the strip changes colors. One of the strips colors will tell if your antifreeze has sufficient RA to protect your engine from corrosion. The strips also have a pad which will tell the freeze protection level. Level of protection is indicated by comparing the color of the pad with a color chart provided.



If your antifreeze no longer has the freeze protection or reserve alkalinity to protect your engine, or if your fluid is full of rust and looks bad you may need to flush your cooling system. This can be done in your driveway or done at your local oil change business for a reasonable price where your fluid should be removed, filtered, chemically adjusted for RA and freeze protection and returned to your system. (Precision Tune advertises for \$49.90.) If you choose to do it in your driveway, there are some videos in YouTube on flushing and reverse flushing your engine, radiator and heater core at: <http://www.youtube.com/> If you do it in your driveway you will have some old antifreeze to dispose. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency guidelines are available as a PDF file at their website at: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/view-document.html?gid=4057> which state small quantities may be disposed of through sanitary sewer systems which will be able to filter and dilute it. The document also has a list of businesses which re-cycle antifreeze or take it to the Arden Hills National Guard facility (MN 96 and Hamline Ave) where there is an oil and antifreeze recycling facility.

2017 Annual Banquet and Business Meeting

Saturday November 11th

Joseph's Grill

\$15.00 per person

140 Wabasha Street South

RSVP by Tuesday November 7th

To: Barb Ronning

St. Paul, MN

barbararonning@yahoo.com

763-684-4041

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 pm Cash Bar

7:00 pm Buffet Dinner

After Dinner – Reviews of 2017 Events

Club Officers Appreciation

Election of Officers for 2018



Prizes and Drawings given throughout the evening

Silent Auction (donations to the auction are welcomed!)

Etcetera....

A Howl of Healeys

The English language is a wonderful expression of consciousness. Words have power. I have read a book in which, I believe, it is argued that the definition of conscience lies in our ability to interpret metaphors [bring me another G&T and I'll explain further].

Therefore, if I've ever been conscious in a Healey, if that Healey has ever been in a group or club of Healeys, then most definitely I've been in a "Howl of Healeys". Just as crows gather in a coven and wolves in a pack, Healeys cavort in a Howl. Dig It?

Dave Herreid

"You can't buy HAPPINESS, but you can buy HORSEPOWER, and that's kind of the same thing....."

(thoughts submitted by Dave Hatzung)

What do you get when you drop a pumpkin.....Squash

What does a skeleton order at a restaurant.....Spare Ribs



Events Schedule.

- Nov. 1** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Club meeting at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- Nov. 11** **Annual Banquet / Business Meeting Party** – (Sat) The annual dinner, election of officers, and business meeting will occur on this evening at Joseph's Grill. See page 14.
- Dec. 2** **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2018 will be on the agenda for this meeting at Joseph's Restaurant in St. Paul. A Board of Directors meeting will follow.
- Dec. 6** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Club meeting at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.

2018 Breakfast Planning Meeting

When: Saturday December 2, 2017

Where: Joseph's Grill 140 Wabasha St. St. Paul

Time: 9:00 am Breakfast 10:00 am Meeting

Cost: \$5.00 per person (club subsidized)

Board of Directors' Meeting will occur after the Planning Meeting



InterMarque Breakfasts

Elsie's Restaurant, Bar and Bowling Center is the breakfast destination every Saturday at 8:00 AM. The second Saturday of the month is Ladies' Day, though of course, they are welcome every week.

Location: 729 Marshall Street N.E., Minneapolis.
Map at <http://elsies.com>.

New! On the first and third Saturdays, the East Ender's Breakfast Group meets at 9 AM at **Brookside Bar & Grille** 140 Judd Street, Marine on St. Croix, MN

InterMarque Newsletter

Check out InterMarque's multi-marque calendar in their latest newsletter for even more car events!

InterMarque.org



Minnesota Austin Healey Club Inc.
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.

For Sale: 1967 Austin Healey Sprite. Needs a new steward !
Restorable or enjoy as is. Runs well, but has some cosmetic issues.
For more info, contact: tomfeinthe@gmail.com or cell 612-356-9962. (8/17)

For Sale: 1 set of vents - Aluminum front wings with flanges- PR
1 set of vents - Steel front wings with flanges – PR
Either set for the paltry price of \$250.00/pair --- Moss price \$439.00/pair
Contact Fred Ambli at fred@liftpro.com