



# The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XVII No. 10

October 2006



**A beautiful rendering of an Austin Healey 3000 Mk I**

## **October Events**

**Wednesday October 4 – PIE Meeting**  
**Saturday October 7 – Jaguar-AH Fall Color Tour**  
**Saturday October 21 – Final Fall Tour**

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**Presidential Mike****By Mike Martin**

Hello all you Healey lovers. This is a bad time to write this memo to you. It's gray and raining outside, along with the changing colors of the trees. Tomorrow is the first day of Fall. What happened to Summer? Hope you achieved your goal of driving the wheels off your Healey. I even got in some short drives in the Green Bean, hoping the wheels wouldn't really come off! I might have to call her Shaky Jake. Now to get to the dentist to put my fillings put back in.

Whatever you do, don't miss out on the Fall Tours. I've got a feeling this might be the best color change in all the years I've been here. You've got a tour with the Jag folks down to Red Wing ( one of my favorite places ) and another Tour on the 21<sup>st</sup> - just to be stunned by the beauty of the colors and the sound of that wonderful exhaust note. I'll be off to Oregon for a condo meet - which has now become a dog fight between directors - and no doubt wishing I were here enjoying the color.

It's not long until the BIG annual business meeting. It will be at the Officer's Club and will be a classy affair. I've already got a variance for me to attend. No shirts, no shoes, no service. It will be a two meat buffet for around \$18 per head. I've yet to finalize the details, but plan on a great time.

Start thinking about serving the club you love as an officer or board member.

See you at Pie !

This month's cover is a gouache painting by John Park. Signed and numbered 32" X 24" lithographs are available at the Popkapsule Gallery. Their phone number is 508-347-7277 or visit their website at [www.popkapsule.com](http://www.popkapsule.com)

**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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 October 4th  
**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.

### Jaguar – Healey Fall Color Tour

Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>  
See pages 6 & 7

Be sure to RSVP by Oct. 2nd

### A – H Fall Color Tour “The Last Drive”

Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup>  
Tentative Date

Watch for Announcement



Thought provoking Road Sign !



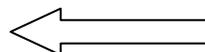
### Breakfast at the Peg

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.



Double – take Truck Art !!



# Wheels 'n Wings 2006



The VP ReportBy Mike Manser

Healey Supporters!

Wow, what an exciting couple of weeks it has been. It started with an Antique Tour in which drivers met in St. Paul and then took a great drive in beautiful weather down to Afton to attend a multi-marque car show. After that everyone enjoyed a stunning drive up Hwy 95 along the scenic St. Croix River to Stillwater for an outdoor lunch at The Freighthouse. After filling up on good food, beer, and bloody marys, everyone went off in an effort to fill up on good antiques and enjoy the weather. I must admit I was happy to see some small purchases but was hoping for someone to walk away with the expensive antique. I think Betty Stine threatened to purchase an expensive broach, but Carl threatened to counter the purchase with a new airplane. I still wonder if Betty later made a clandestine trip back to Stillwater. We will have to see if she has any new jewelry next time we see her. Attendees included Dale and Barb Martin, Dave and Kim Meek, Andy and Linda Lindberg, Darrell Pearson, Carl and Betty Stine. Special recognition to Darrell for driving his new Healey acquisition.

Pie with the Prez was exciting as always. Attendees included Andy Lindberg, Tom Moerke, Mike Wooten (a non-member but always welcome to attend), Paul Weidner, Tom Hazen, Jay Fowler, Greg Lauser, Dave Lee, Darrell Pearson, Dan Wolters, Gary and Barb Ronning, Marsha and Herb Miller, Dale Martin, George Arthur, Don Heath, Scott McQueen, John Snyder, Curt Carlson, Jack Stein, Mike Martin, and David Anderson. In addition to the discussion about cars, Gary had a great car related joke (I invite him to bring another for the next meeting), and there was a lively discussion about attendance at Healey related activities. Curt was kind enough to record everyone's valuable input. With the help of Mike Martin, I hope at a future meeting to get more input from our members and then address some of these issues at the planning meeting in December. Again the member's input was invaluable, and it is greatly appreciated.

As far as my Healey Happenings this month I am today recovering from a great vintage racing weekend at Road America. Healey teams from the Twin Cities were Jeff Johnk's, Jeff Lumbard's, Dan Powell's, Rich Stadther's, and mine. As usual there was tremendous support from other people who included Liz Stadther, Carol and Jessica Johnk, Tom Hazen, Tom and June Moerke, and Jim Wojcik. I am sure there were others, but the weekend was at times a blur - due to the vast amount of activity and...well...the beer : )

There were 3 bees, a squirrel and a man in a car. They were driving along a country lane and the car broke down. The first bee said, "Dont worry I'll give us a few extra miles by peeing in the tank", it worked, for a couple of miles that is until they broke down again. And so the second bee decided to do the same as the first bee, this lasted another couple of miles until they broke down again, so the third bee did exactly the same. Then finally the car broke down.

The squirrel said "I will pee in the tank" to which the man replied, "Sorry mate, this car only runs on BP."

### NEW MEMBERS

**Aaron Courteau** has recently become a member of the MAHC. He lives in St. Paul and has a love of British cars – especially the ones that have a Lotus badge on them!

**Paul and Patty Grinde** of Moorhead also joined the ranks recently. They have an AH Mark II BT7 3000. Hopefully they can make the trek to some of the future club events. **Welcome all !**





Join Odin and Frigg for the Ride of the Valkyries!!!

...the first assembly of the Minnesota Jaguar Club & the Minnesota Austin Healey Club

*Where to? An easy ride down to Red Wing for lunch at the historic Saint James Hotel. When? Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>*

*We will all meet at the Lakeland Park & Ride on Route 95, just north of Interstate 94. If you are coming from the west, exit on 95 North, the last exit in Minnesota (not 95 South, the second to last exit!). Go north about 100 yards past the freeway and turn right at the Park and Drive sign. It's just to the south of the Bungalow Restaurant lot.*

*We are departing at 10:30!! Don't be late! Loki will lead us on to I94 East to the first exit in Wisconsin...County Road F, taking that south through the edge of Prescott on to 35, then to 63 and over the bridge into Red Wing.*

*Take the second right after the bridge onto Bush Street and you will see the St James on the next block, 406 Main Street. Stay on Bush past Main to enter the hotel's covered parking. We will have the Victorian Room, main floor, 12PM SHARP. After lunch enjoy the many interesting sights and shopping opportunities in Red Wing.*

**We need an exact count of attendees for this event. Please fill out the bottom of the attached and return to me, George Arthur with the appropriate remittance for your luncheon choice(s).**

*Fare: The following includes tax, gratuity, and coffee, tea (iced or otherwise), or milk.*

- A. *Smoked Ham on Rye Sandwich, Swiss Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Whole Grain Mustard, and Cup of Chef's Soup of the Day \$13.80*
- B. *Sliced Turkey Breast on Whole Wheat Sandwich, Havarti Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Red Pepper, Aioli and Cup of Chef's Soup of the Day \$13.80*
- C. *Traditional Chicken Waldorf Salad with Sliced Chicken Breast, Toasted Walnuts, served with St James Bread Basket and Butter \$13.80*
- D. *Chicken Supreme - Grilled Chicken Breast, Fresh Herb Cream Sauce, Wild Rice Medley, Seasonal Vegetables, Bread Basket and Butter, Mixed Green Salad, Tomatoes, Citrus Vinaigrette \$17.60*
- E. *Seared Salmon Fillet - Lemon Beurre Blanc, Buttered Baby Red Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Bread Basket and Butter, Mixed Green Salad, Tomatoes, Citrus Vinaigrette \$17.60*

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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. \_\_\_\_\_ C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_ E. \_\_\_\_\_

*Please include a check made out to George Arthur for the appropriate total. Forward to me at:  
855 Novak Av N  
Stillwater, Minnesota, 55082*

*... to arrive no later than Tuesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank You!*

***See you on the 7<sup>th</sup> !!***

# TECH TIP: by Doctor Ernie

## FUEL PUMPS

( IN PARTICULAR, ADD-ON ELECTRIC PUMPS )

Most authorities agree that electric pumps work best if located close to the fuel tank. That's because they work best as pushers. That has to do with the fact that it's more difficult to cock the spring that pushes the diaphragm that actually moves the fuel with a magnet in an electric fuel pump. The engine driven mechanical fuel pump, on the other hand, can have almost any power it wants to cock its spring. And of course there are vane and turbine electric pumps that can deliver very high pressures, but these are primarily used on fuel injected or racing engines.

But back to the common add-on fuel pump - that is installed to overcome vapor lock situations that were common on older cars or as a little shot in the arm to prevent lean-out on a high output engine. My feeling is that an electric pump can be reasonably effective if installed anywhere along the frame or bottom of the car as long as it is at least as low as the fuel tank. But care must be exercised in keeping it away from or insulating it from the exhaust system. It also must be clear of any moving suspension, brake, or drive shaft parts.

The next question is how to plumb it. The most common way is to just cut the existing fuel line and insert the electric pump. That method has at least three faults. The first is that when hooked in series, the fuel pressure can be more than doubled - causing a condition that the carburetor can't handle - resulting in flooding or an over rich air-fuel mixture, especially at low speeds or idle. Many people think they can solve this problem by simply installing an off and on switch feeding electricity to the pump. By doing that you create the second problem. When hooked in series (and either one of the pumps quits or is shut off) the remaining pumps output will be even further reduced fighting to push or pull fuel through the turned off pump. Then there's a third hazard. If the mechanical engine driven pump diaphragm is leaking, the electric pump could push fuel into the crankcase - and there goes your retirement fund !

A better way to plumb in an extra fuel pump would be to run the pump in a separate "parallel" fuel line. You would "T" into the line somewhere before the mechanical pump, then "T" back into the fuel line after the mechanical pump (with the electric pump installed somewhere along this line). This parallel system has two benefits. You can tailor the electric pump pressure to be at the top of your engine fuel pressure requirements. I.E. the factory manual may say that the carburetor will live okay with 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 pounds of pressure. You'd pick an electric pump of close to 3 1/2 pounds. And a second benefit would be greatly increased volume of fuel with no increase in pressure. This volume figure of course is influenced by line, hose, and fitting sizes. This second benefit is mostly useful if the engine size or horsepower has been increased.

### **Reminder Note !**

It will soon be time to select new club officers and staff. Two positions for you to consider are a new Vice President (to be President the following year) and a new Newsletter Editor. After being the Editor for five years, I believe there should be a new person to take the position and insert new ideas. Also, any other staff members that want to be replaced should make their intentions known to President Mike Martin and VP Mike Manser.

## Events Schedule

- Oct. 4 \*\***      **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.
- Oct. 7**      **Fall Color Tour**- (Sat.) Come out and enjoy the beautiful Fall colors with our Jaguar Club friends. George Arthur will be arranging the event. See pages 6 & 7.
- Oct. 21\*\***      **Final Fall Tour** – (Sat.) – Tentative date. Watch for announcement.
- Nov. 1 \*\***      **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- Nov. 18 \*\***      **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. 2 \*\***      **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat.) The schedule of events for 2007 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Mike Manser will select the site.
- Dec. 6\*\***      **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.

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

## Gau Open House

### Editor

This particular Saturday was not so favorable for the British cars, but there were some brave souls that brought theirs. Many others came in their everyday raintight limos. Paul Gau's garage is very British and very inviting. Finished off nicely, it has several Sprites, much memorabilia, piles of used parts, and trophies from his racing exploits of past years. Refreshments were plentiful, and it was a great place to hang out!

Meanwhile, Pat Gau was inside preparing food and providing a place for the women to socialize. After a while, Paul cranked up his outdoor barbecue and proceeded to cook a pile of brats. We gravitated to the food and enjoyed the brats and the varied dishes that people brought. It was a great way to relax for an afternoon.

Anyone looking for Sprite parts (as well as other British iron) will find what they need at Paul's garage. He has cabinets and boxes full and would like to thin it out. Hopefully we will see Paul and Pat at some future Healey events. He does intend to get back into some racing. Thanks to the Gau's for an enjoyable event!



Minnesota Austin Healey Club  
Gary Ronning, Editor  
1019 Ridge Haven Circle  
Buffalo, MN 55313

### First Class Postage



## MARKETPLACE

**FOR SALE** - Healey "flipper". This device bolts to the suspension points on a big Healey and allows the bare chassis to be turned over for tinworm eradication and rust repair. It is about 14 feet long and 3 feet tall. Call Tom Wolters at 651-388-7377 . (8/06)

**FOR SALE** - 1961 Bugeye Sprite Completely restored - no nut left unturned or refurbished. British Racing Green with Black Convertible top. Over \$20k invested. Will accept reasonable offers. Also have a Morris 948 engine, Horizontal flow Radiator & other Stuff. Open for offers: Call John Morrison at 763-757-2424 (9/06)

**FOR SALE** – Four 60 spoke Austin Healey Wire Wheels – excellent condition. \$200.00 Call Dick Mathews at 763-587-0285 (9/06)

**FOR SALE:** New pair of Front Bumper Brackets for A-H 3000 - \$50.00 Call Gary Ronning at 763-684-4041 or email: [gtronning@aol.com](mailto:gtronning@aol.com) (8/06)

**FOR SALE:** Set of new BJ8 rear leaf springs, BN7 distributor parts, new 3000 heat shield kit, set of rocker panels, trunk floor panel. Call Rossi at 612 822 7069 or email: [casadirossi@hotmail.com](mailto:casadirossi@hotmail.com) (10/06)

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