

The

Healey Enthusiast

Volume XX No. 9 September 2009



Austin Healey Streamliner

(foreground)

Austin Healey Endurance Car (background)

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

WED. SEPT 2 PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING - PIE

F-S SEPT 11-13 FALL VINTAGE RACE FESTIVAL

SAT. SEPT 12 WHEELS 'N WINGS

SUN. SEPT 13 HEALEY - MORGAN PICNIC

Sun. Sept 27 Huston - Soderbeck Fall Picnic

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Presidential Proclamations

By Rod Richert

By now you have noticed that a regular feature of the Healey Enthusiast is the look back ten and twenty year in club history. The character of the club has changed dramatically in twenty years. Most notably, we have a much more ambitious calendar. Where twenty years ago a dozen events per year was the norm, in 2009 thirty-five events were scheduled. The newsletter was and still is the glue that binds the club (a tip of the hat to 2009 editors Larry Nimmerfroh and Gary Ronning), but the biggest change may be the monthly PIE meetings-guaranteeing a monthly face to face promoting upcoming events and passing on any recent communications from outside the club. It's the place for every member to put things before the membership.

At August's PIE, I promoted the August MAHC eventsthe Lauser/Stine Picnic, the Amery Airport Autocross (see reports elsewhere in this issue), and Brit Fest hosted by the Minnesota MG Group. Communications that came by the President's desk included a BT-7 August lottery sponsored by the Special Forces Association of Waco Texas and the unfortunate loss of the Brown and Bigelow venue due to "the amount of resurfacing material removed by the MAHC gymkhana"

Jim Klein reports a healthy treasury balance of \$10,504.00 with Rendezvous netting a \$1040.00 profit. Greg Lauser reported on the Healeys' Return to Bonneville. Wayne Soderbeck has additional Rendezvous Badges for sale. Jim Kriz reported on a great experience with J&D Custom Plating in St.Paul, and Gary Ronning, not to be forgotten, is always open for Regalia sales.

Continued on page 3

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 September 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.

Addresses!

Please let us know if you have had any changes in name, address, phone number, or email address recently. Also spouse email addresses are welcome, so club activities and info can be better distributed to all members. Thank you!

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 Square Peg Diner The location:

2021 East Hennepin Ave.

Minneapolis, MN 55414



Presidential Proclamations continued...

Members attending Wednesday's PIE: Tom & June Moerke, Dick Mathews, Greg Lauser, Jack Stein, Larry Nimmerfroh, Jim Klein, Jeff Johnk, Dan Powell, Jeff Lumbard, Bob & Barb Featherly, Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Carl & Betty Stine & guest Ashley, Steve & Kim Rixen, Wayne Soderbeck, Jan Huston, Curt Carlson, Aaron Courteau, Gary & Barb Ronning and Jim Kriz.

Ten years ago this month Vice President Curt Carlson reported that of the 1200 cars on display, seven Healeys appeared on the hill at Wheels 'n Wings in Osceola with others distributed throughout the field.

Twenty years ago this month: According to President Mark Mallander, the second annual Northfield run "Brought out as many Healeys for any event that I can recall...Just about everyone in the club was there."

Conclave 2010

AHCA Heritage 1975 – 2010 Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa, Galena, IL July 11 - 16, 2010 **Hosted by: Midwest Region AHCA**



You might want to get your reservation in early !!

Lauser / Stine Tour & Picnic

By Elaine Wetzel & Kim Kiser

Mother Nature cooperated and gave us a perfect day for the fifth Annual Pierce County Parade and Picnic on Sunday, August 9.

A number of Austin Healeys, a few Morgans, an MG or two, and a renegade Lotus gathered in the early afternoon at Pt. Douglass Park in Prescott, Wisconsin, for the start of the parade. We were joined by special guests Doug and Lori Dawson of New Zealand and their lovely daughter-in-law Stephanie, who lives in River Falls, Wisconsin. Greg Lauser, co-piloted by Doug, led us through the beautiful tree-lined hills and farmland of Pierce County.

Upon reaching the Stine Ranch, we were greeted by Carl and Betty Stine and Nancy Lauser, who had been working together to provide us with refreshments and a wonderful spread of culinary delights too numerous to mention - several of which included veggies that came from Betty's amazing gardens.

The afternoon was spent eating great food, visiting with friends new and old, wandering the extensive gardens and immaculate lawns, and checking out Carl's tree house retreat!

Thank you Carl & Betty and Greg & Nancy for a great day! We appreciate your hard work and hospitality, and look forward to the Sixth Annual Pierce County Parade and Picnic next year.

In attendance were: Dave Lee, Steve & Kim Rixen, Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Mike & Gloria Lynch, Doug & Lori Dawson (New Zealand) with Stephanie, Chuck & Jean Norton, Dale & Barb Martin, Keith & Phyllis Galberth, Jack Stein, Curt Carlson & Teresa Boyer, Larry Nimmerfroh, Wayne Soderbeck & Jan Huston, Aaron Courteau & Emily Tyra, Gary & Barb Ronning, Rod Richert, Dick Mathews, Jack & Katherine Schneider, Bob Cox, Carl & Betty Stine, and Greg & Nancy Lauser.

Unfortunately, June and Tom Moerke were ill and couldn't make it. We missed them and hope they are on the mend.

For those of you who couldn't make it, be sure to make it a priority for next year! I know I will!!













HEALEYS RETURN TO BONNEVILLE ISSUE 007, AUGUST 5, 2009

It's the beginning of August 2009 and time is moving quickly. The tyranny of distance has been against the team and for the cars to be in Oregon for showing at All British Field Meet 2009 in Portland, they have been packed into containers on 29 July and as you are reading this Newsletter are making their way to the USA. With the Pacific Ocean separating Melbourne, Australia and Bonneville it isn't a simple matter of hitching the cars behind tow vehicles and setting off. There are thousands of miles of ocean of painfully slow surface shipping.

Some weeks before the cars were shipped, to find out how the cars were progressing we spoke to Steve Pike whose company Marsh Classic in Bacchus Marsh constructed the cars. "While the Endurance car has been finished for some time, not so the Streamliner. However the painting has been completed, the engine has been built along with the gearbox. The suspension has been fitted and the supercharger is now joined to the front of the engine."

Interested in more details we asked Steve to be a little more expansive. "In some ways the Streamliner is standard Austin- Healey 100. Take the suspension for instance – that's 100% standard 100. The differential is a spiral bevel like the early 100s and the 100S; however the ratio is 2.46:1. Coupled with the 16 inch wheels, a 30inch rolling diameter and a .9 reduction in 5th gear gives it an overall final ratio of 2.2:1."

Can you tell us about the wheels and tyres? "The wheels are 16 inch peg drive Dunlop racing wheels while the tyres are also Dunlop racing tyres. The both are the same as fitted to the Jaguar D-types and Lister Jaguars. Off the shelf, the tyres are good for 160mph, but when the tread is buffed off a further 20mph is possible. Increased tyre pressures will make it possible to run at the magic 200mph."

What have been the biggest dramas so far with the cars? "Building the cars was relatively straight forward, but definitely the biggest challenge has been getting past the current rules for scrutineering. The rules have provided us with some interesting engineering challengers. For instance we had to design and then make roll-cages for both cars. That was easy enough for the Endurance car, but not so the Streamliner. For that the rules say that the rollbar has to cover the driver from the top of the head right down to the feet. That was difficult, especially when it also had to fit within the Perspex canopy. In the end we had to make the canopy 6 inches taller."

Celebrating the
Accomplishments of
Donald Healey!

"Finding a Shorrock supercharger proved to be a challenge we couldn't meet despite an extensive worldwide search for the correct type. In the end we decided on a Wade supercharger and I can tell you we have learnt quite a bit about superchargers since then. For instance we now know that blowing air requires a much bigger jet in the single 2 ½ inch SU carburettor. Plus the blower has to be drained after every use or at least every couple of days. The engine runs at 11:1 static compression and at 13:1 when boosted at 10lb. The Wade supercharger is much bigger than the original Shorrock and when fitted, it sits over the top of the front cross member. It's driven off the front of the crankshaft by a 2 ½ inch toothed belt."

Didn't you have problems finding an original gearbox? "The gearbox ended up being difficult as well. Like the Endurance car the original Streamliner had a DB or David Brown gearbox, but it was a very special 5-speed. I have since found out that there were less than a dozen original 5-speed DB boxes built, so really we had next to no chance in finding one. Then I was talking to fellow Austin-Healey and XR-37 owner Robert Harrison who is familiar with the DB box. Rob suggested that we use a Rover LT77 5-speed as it is not too dissimilar to the original David Brown."

"So we found a Rover box, rebuilt it and then by grafting on an Austin-Healey bellhousing and making a longer tail-shaft it all went together quite well."

The last minute challenges...

What about the red flash?

"We were going to use a sign writer to paint it

on, but that proved to be problematic. So in the end he came out and cut paper templates with the idea of making in the way of a sticker to get to the USA in time.

I am really pleased at how hard everyone is working especially my son David who made the body and the spray painter Jarrad Solomon."

In the end the 17 July 2009 deadline came and went as there was far more work to be done, mainly caused by having to comply with the 2009 rules. One being that a parachute had to be fitted to the car. We will hear more about that and other challengers, disasters and successes in the next newsletter.

Patrick Quinn - for Healeys Return to Bonneville

The cars ready for their journey...first the Pacific salt...then the salt of Utah!

WWW.HEALEYSRETURNTOBONNEVILLE.COM

AMERY AIRPORT AUTOCROSS AND STRAIGHT-AWAY SPEED RUN VI

by Rod Richert

It's been a chilling summer, but once again the weather gods have smiled upon the MAHC event planners, as the skies cleared the evening before the big event. Saturday, August 22 was perfect weather for the Amery Airport Run VI.

I left Stillwater donning knit cap, gloves, and quilted jacket for the morning top-down drive - in other words, a classic Osceola/Motorbooks type morning. I would have preferred to be passed by a convoy to British classics, but it was several modern V.W.s whining by. There were a number of marked "bumps" due to ongoing road construction that were effective ramps to my Sprite chassis, but I arrived at the airport in one piece, anticipating a fun and warming day of competition.

Three members tested the track: Tom Wolters in his Bugeye, Byron Peterson in his 3000 Mk II, and Rich Stadther joined past president Dan Wolters in his 100 "fastback". Members helping speed master Tom Hazen as workers for the day: Jim Klein, Byron Peterson and Rod Richert. Scott McQueen made a visit to the pits as crew support. It was such a beautiful day that few left right up to the last run ending at 4:40.

The usual stop was made at Village Pizza for pie & suds where Tom handed out Award Certificates. At my table, Jim Klein picked up the tab (Thanks Jim!). Kudos to Tom Hazen for all the hard work going in to a spectacularly run speed event!

The ride home was much warmer with the added bonus of several roadside vendors, one with chocolate Lab puppies.



'Bonneville-Bound for Books'

Lauser 'on the road again' for the Prescott Public Library



Greg Lauser and his Austin-Healey 3000 are going on the road again for a worthy cause – this time to raise money for the public library in his community.

Last year, he and two other national officers of the Austin-Healey Club of America drove a Cross-Country Caravan for Kids benefiting The Make-a-Wish Foundation^R and its local chapters. That road trip to San Diego helped inspire members of local Austin-Healey clubs across North America to raise a total of \$29,325 during 2008 for Make-A-Wish; with more than \$16,000 raised before and during the drive last June.

Locally, members of the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club raised more than \$2,000 for the Minnesota Chapter of Make-A-Wish.

This September, Lauser is heading for the Bonneville Salt Flats in western Utah. He hopes people in and around Prescott, Wis., will donate funds to the library based on the roundtrip mileage he will drive. Forms for pledging either by the mile or a lump sum are available at the library and he hopes area retailers also will display them.

"Donations of any amount are most welcome. People who pledge a penny a mile for the 3,000-mile roundtrip will be making a \$30 contribution to the Prescott Public Library," said Lauser, who is a member of the library's board of trustees. "While the overall fundraising goal is much more modest this year, it is very important to expanding and improving services the library provides to the greater Prescott community."

He noted that all contributions are tax-deductible and that all funds donated would go to the library. None will be used for trip expenses.

Those interested in contributing to the "Bonneville-Bound for Books" fundraiser may do so in person at the library, online by addressing their pledge to enright@ifls.lib.wi.us or by contacting Lauser at glauser@pressenter.com or 262-9813.

While in Utah, Lauser will work with news media on coverage of speed and endurance trials by hand-built, faithful recreations of two Austin-Healeys that set records in the mid 1950s. The newly created Healeys are not kit cars, but built to the exacting specifications of the original vehicles.

The 1954 Healey Streamliner nearly topped the 200-mph barrier at Bonneville, with a top speed of 192.74 mph. An international team of Healey enthusiasts has built both cars in Australia. For four days – Sept. 16-19 – their Streamliner will try to meet or exceed the best speed recorded in 1954.

The same week, a recreated Healey 100 sports car prepared by the same team will attempt to better the 24-hour endurance record established for Austin-Healeys on the salt flat's circuit in 1954 – an average speed of 132.29 mph. In fact, the recreated Healey will use some parts and pieces that were part of the original record-setting Healey 100.

"Combining support for all the library does for the community with my enjoyment of vintage sports cars seemed like a good way to urge others to support the library," Lauser said. "I hope it will persuade folks my age and younger to contribute to the library and learn more about classic sports cars in the future."



The World's Leading Publisher and Distributor of Books for the Enthusiast

29th Annual Wheels & Wings

Saturday, September 12 • 8 – 5 • Osceola, WI • Save the date! Whether you know us as Motorbooks, MVP Books, Voyageur Press or Zenith Press, we have books for everyone.

Car Show

Bring your collectible Car, Motorcycle, Truck or Tractor and join our show. <u>Click here</u> for classes. Or just marvel at the 1,000+ vehicles of those who did! <u>See images</u> from last year's show.

Book Sale

Save 50% in our huge, bargain area in our warehouse! **Save 25%** on books, calendars and DVDs. This is your chance to browse through our new and best-selling titles

Featured Guests

Larry Edsall

Larry's recent, best-selling work <u>Camaro: A Legend Reborn</u> covers the development and launch of the new 2010 Camaro. Rising through the ranks of automotive industry news and motorsports editor, he became *AutoWeek* magazine's managing editor. With his background as an industry insider, it's no surprise that he has authored many great books covering the launch of new vehicles and racing history.

Randy Leffingwell

Randy has authored many best-selling titles for us. His latest is the <u>Porsche 911 Buyer's Guide</u>, which covers all of the key information needed when acquiring a Porsche. He is also the author and principle photographer of two ground-breaking works: <u>The Harley-Davidson Motor Co. Archive Collection</u> and <u>Porsche Sixty Years</u>.

Donnie Smith

Donnie is one of the top designers and fabricators of complete custom built bikes today. He has earned many awards for his work including: a lifetime achievement award from *Hot Bike Magazine*, another lifetime achievement award from *V-Twin Magazine* and he is also a 1995 inductee to Sturgis Hall of Fame. As one of 50 top builders chosen by S&S Cycle to commemorate their 50 years in the motorcycle industry, see one of his finest works in the new title **S&S** Cycle Presents Today's Top Custom Bike Builders.

Beer Garden

The Lions Club of Osceola will be selling beer on site.



Huston – Soderbeck Tour & Picnic Bonfire, Beans, and Brats Feed



12:30 pm on Sunday September 27th

Meet at the Ride Share Parking Lot on East I94 and Hwy. 95 in front of the Bungalow Restaurant. We will leave from there at 1:00 pm for a one hour scenic tour to Wayne's Cabin in the woods near River Falls, WI.

At the cabin, there are 46 acres of Wooded Trails, if you care to take a walk. There are no Tree Houses, however Wayne will give you a tour of his Deer Stands and Shooting Range upon request. For the adventurous, there will be a Scavenger Hunt.

Menu: Good old fashioned gut grumbling grub – Beans, Brats, German Potato Salad and all the fixings. If you would like to bring a dish to pass, it would be most welcome. Non-alcoholic Beverages will be provided. You may bring your own "other" Beverages. A Grill is available, if you want to cook something other than Brats.

You might want to bring a chair. If it rains – too bad! No Tour or Bonfire, but the feed and fellowship will go on. Please RSVP by Thursday September 24^{th} , so we know how many vittles to cook. Questions: Call Jan Huston at 651-455-8570 or Wayne Soderbeck at 715-425-5032. Email Wayne at soderbecksystems@netzero.net .

Note: For GPS users, Wayne's address is 137 County Road JJ, River Falls, WI. 54022



Healey – Morgan Picnic

Date: Sunday September 13th

Time: 2:00 pm

Place: Home of Herb & Marsha Miller

9701 - 16th Ave. So. Bloomington, MN Phone: 952-888-2366 Cell: 612-860-8067

Bring: Something to grill and a dish to pass Beverages & Snacks will be provided



Events Schedule 2009

September 2 ** PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

September 11-13 Fall Vintage Race Festival XXIV - Held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. A

great opportunity to rub shoulders with the drivers and see the race cars up close. Call

Jeff J., Dan P., or Jeff L. for details.

September 12 Wheels 'n Wings – (Sat) 8:00 a.m. Looks like the event is still alive. Lots of cars and

books. Airplanes, a train ride, hot dogs, and friendly people make it an enjoyable day in

Osceola, WI. See details on page 9.

September 13 ** Morgan - Healey Picnic – (Sun) Herb and Marsha are hosting again. See page 10.

September 13 Charity Auto Show – (Sun) 2nd Annual in Wayzata. See August issue for details.

September 27 ** Huston - Soderbeck Fall Picnic (Sun) Meet at 12:30 p.m. for the Tour and 2:00 p.m.

at the Soderbeck home in Roberts WI. See details on page 10.

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

October 10 ** Adopt A Highway Clean-up (Sat) 9:00 a.m. The second of our two clean-ups for the

year is to take place on this date. Arranged by Greg Lauser.

October 10** Fall Color Tour - (Sat.) 2:00 p.m.The final drive of the year to enjoy the beautiful Fall

tree colors. Details later.

November 4 ** PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

November 7 ** Charity Event – (Sat) Dale Martin will schedule our club to take part in a repeat food

packaging charitable exercise for Feed My Starving Children. Details later.

November 21 ** Annual Business Meeting Party – (Sat) The annual business meeting, election of

officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club.

Arrangements being made by Mike Martin.

December 2 ** PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3.

December 5 ** Planning Breakfast – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2010 will be on the agenda for

this meeting. Katy Olson will select the site.

December 5 ** Annual MAHC Board of Directors Meeting – (Sat) The Board of Directors will

meet following the Planning Breakfast to ratify the 2010 Schedule of Official MAHC Activities

(tentatively set for 11:00 a.m.)

** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

Special Event: September 16 – 19, 2009 is the projected time for a special event at the Bonneville

Salt Flats in Utah. An Australian group has re-manufactured an original A-H Endurance car and also a copy of the original Streamliner from the mid 1950s. If all goes well, they plan to have them at Bonneville for testing – see article on page 6. They have a website to check the progress of their plans. That address is: www.healeysreturntobonneville.com. Looks

like a once in a lifetime chance to see these cars in action at their historic origins.

June 17-20 Rendezvous 2010 - (Thurs – Sun) Location for 2010 will be at the Best Western

Nor'Wester Resort Hotel in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Reserve early!

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.

FOR SALE: 1966 A-H 3000 BJ8. British Racing Green w/Black interior. Approx. 75M miles. Well maintained and in excellent condition. Owned since 1985. Call Bob Thomas at 651-748-9153. (6/09)

FOR SALE: 1962 A-H 3000 Mk II – Needs full restoration. Brian McCullough found it - located near Wyoming, MN. For information, email to russellj@loftenlabel.com . (6/09)