



Volume 34, Number 2

Healey Enthusiast

March/April 2023



Your editor was desperate for a front-page photo and had to resort to one of Dave Herreid's 1962 Austin Healey from a 2017 trip to Monterey, California, for an international Healey meeting. This should make you eager to start the driving season. (Please send me good photos of your cars!!!)

Upcoming Events

Wed	05 April	PIE Meeting
Wed	03 May	PIE Meeting
Fri-Sun	19-21 May	SVRA Vintage Festival Weekend
Sat	27 May	Cars & Caves Car Show
See the website for details: www.mnhealey.com		

Minnesota Austin Healey Club (MAHC)

Staff

President	Dave Hatzung 952-927-4600 dave@hatzunginsurance.com
Vice President	John Hatzung 952-270-8321 johnhatzung@usfamily.net
Treasurer	Liz Stadther 651-698-1981 lstadther@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Kriz 612-377-2277 jkriz1@comcast.net
Communications	Daphne Walmer 1697 Stanford Ave St. Paul, MN 55105-2039 651-398-3658 daphne.walmer@gmail.com
Video Librarian	David Herreid 651-334-3879 david.herreid@gmail.com
Webmaster	Greg Willodson greg.willodson@gmail.com
Name Tags	Greg Willodson greg.willodson@gmail.com
National Delegate	Eileen Wetzel 763-541-9571 econlon@hotmail.com
InterMarque Delegate	Jay Jacobson 612-388-8929 jjacobso53wmconnect.com
Regalia	Gary Ronning 763-684-4041 gtranning@aol.com
Board of Directors	Phil Dawson Greg Lauser Dan Powell Scott McQueen Geoff Rossi

Technical Resources

Sprite	Paul Gau 952-933-7277
100	Mike Manser mike.santry@yahoo.com
3000 & modified	Jeff Johnk 952-461-2720
Jensen Healey	Jay Jacobson 612-388-8929

Websites

Minnesota:	www.mnhealey.com
National	www.healeyclub.org

PIE

(President's Informal Evening)

Date: Wednesday, April 5, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m. social hour; meeting at 7:00

Place: Joseph's Grill
140 South Wabasha
Saint Paul, MN 55107
651-222-2435

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

*Thank you to those who submitted news, articles,
and photos for this issue:*

Dave Hatzung
John Hatzung
Dave Herreid
Jim Manion

Please send submissions before the 15th of the month to:
daphne.walmer@gmail.com

Current and past newsletters:
<http://www.mnhealey.com/mnhealey/newsletter.htm>



HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation. THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST is published 11-12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles that 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's Column

Things are starting to happen! Car shows, car get-togethers, and more. I hope some of you had a chance to go to the MotorHeads get-together. If you belong to only the MAHC, we've lots coming up this spring and summer. But if you also belong to other clubs, like many of our member do, good luck finding the time to get to most of them: InterMarque, the MG club, the Jaguar club, and the Triumph club are super active. It seems like we're finally getting over the Covid slump. Read further on in our newsletter for dates and times of upcoming events.



Many of you know that soon after **June and Tom Moerke** bought their Jaguar XK8, I got the itch and found one. Well, I just had some work done on it at a place in Sarasota, and I have to share some pictures of the garage that worked on it. When the mechanic was referred to me, I was told to hold back any judgement on the place when I drove up, because it would be kind of a mess. I was totally surprised. It was a mess, but I've seen messes before, but I had never expected to see the rest of the yard and building/garage. Cars everywhere. Predominantly Jags, but also MGAs, MGBs, some Healeys also. XKE's, 140s, Man, my mouth was watering. Some pretty bad, some not so bad, just about every condition ... in the garage and sitting out in the lot. Crazy. I'm not looking for any projects, but if I was, I'd check with this guy.

So read on, and get your calendar out and start blocking out dates so you don't miss anything – we're ready to start our engines, my friends.

P.S. Another note for you Healey owners. A Healey the same color as Geoff and Diane Rossi's just sold at Barrett Jackson for \$83,000! See the photo to the left as proof.



Dave Hatzung
President Minnesota Austin
Healey Club

Basically More Fun

by John Hatzung

The first car I ever drove was my brother Dave's '51 Chevy. It was a highly patinaed dark blue, and it had '69 spray painted on the doors and a three on the tree. He drove it down from St. Cloud State for the weekend and showed me how to drive it: clutch, down and back, clutch, up and forward, then clutch, down. I don't remember jerking it around much – I'm sure I did – but I still remember the feel of the clutch and shifter. That was the only time I remember seeing that car. I imagine Mom and Dad didn't want it sitting in the driveway.

My younger brother Steve and I shared two other Chevy's, both pink-and-white 3-speeds OTT. After that a string of slush-bucket Fords and Chevys and a '62 Buick with Dynaflo transmission.

By the end of my schooling, I had been bit by the sporting car bug and celebrated with a lightly used little Colorado orange BMW with a 4-speed. Aside from almost taking off from a stoplight in reverse when I first drove it, I came to always prefer the clutch and stick, and consider myself blessed by a bride who can drive one.

With kids came automatic vans and sedans, improved but unfulfilling. Now that phase is passing, and I live the dream of a more intimate relationship with the drivetrain of a car. Most people nowadays will never understand the impact of shifting with a clutch. My kids don't. Many, if not most, don't even know what a manual transmission is. My nephew has a near-summit Mercedes, and Dave a late-model 911. Both of these cars are automatics and are faster than most any manual-shift cars made. Driving both of them, I came away both awed and a little disappointed. I could do no wrong – in fact, the Mercedes seat actually grabbed (or hugged) me in turns. Like the rear-engine 911, the plan to abandon the manual transmission for speed was voted down by those who know the sensual connection and bond that runs from the foot to the flywheel and the hand to the gears.

We have these cars because we love this stuff. There's joy in exploring and experiencing what our cars are intended to do. A bunch of us came up with the idea of track days, meant to heighten the connection between drivers and their cars. The track experience strips away the distractions of street driving. In just a minute or two, each lap brings the drivers closer in sync with their cars—a connection that extends, in a sense, to the engineers and visionaries who created these beautiful machines.

We're a social group. Let's get together and enjoy driving and talking and watching as we learn and share the fun.

March Tech Session

Scott McQueen talked about the history of his cars, including his race car and another car he has raced in the past. Dan Ekberg, who was involved with the restoration, was also there to talk. Previous owners of Scott's car are very well documented. The race car is called, "the Spare" because it was built from a lot of parts left over from other Healeys. It's interesting how these cars take on a life of their own. We are trustees of these cars as much as owners.

The doughnuts were reported to be great.

As dictated by Dave Herreid while driving to Kansas City



PIE Meeting Notes, 1 March 2023

Dave Hatzung ran the meeting this month. The only recent event was the previous PIE meeting.

Upcoming events:

- 1.** March 11 Tech Session at Scott McQueen's playhouse.
- 2.** April PIE Meeting
- 3.** Cars and Caves Car Show May 3, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 4.** 2023 Conclave in Crystal River, Florida, is May 21-26 at the Plantation Resort.
- 5.** Harvey West Memorial Racing (some details TBD).
- 6.** InterMarque Kickoff May 20 in downtown Osseo
- 7.** Rendezvous in June in Ashland, WI.
- 8.** DCTC

There was some discussion about 2024 Conclave at Road America with the Wisconsin Club. Mike Swanger 262-496-5360. Fifty-five WI members are interested, but some are hoping that the Minnesota Club can help out. Some Minnesota members are willing to help, but don't want to take the lead. The racers will be busy with races before or after a proposed Conclave, although exact race dates haven't been determined.

Attendees: Dave Hatzung, John Hatzung, Dave Herreid, Scott McQueen, Tom & June Moerke, Dan Powell, Steve & Kim Rixen, Rich & Liz Stadther, Clarence & Kate Westberg, and Greg & Suzanne Willodson.

Driving the Healey in a Minnesota Winter

by Jim Manion

Austin Healey owners today don't take their cars out in the winter, but back in the late 60s early 70s, my Healey was my daily driver. Surprisingly, it drove fairly well in the snow and ice. And that's back in the day when most cars had rear-wheel drive and skinny bias ply tires. Was it great in the winter? No, but then other cars at the time were not so great either. The Healey had no major problem with traction or braking. However, it did have pronounced understeer, so when making a corner in snow or ice, it wanted to keep going straight. To make a turn you had to slow way down, and since it was so low to the ground it had to plow through snowdrifts. So, you had to avoid really deep snow. I probably got stuck only a couple of times where I needed a push.

Bitterly cold weather was a bigger problem, because of the tubed tires that came with the car. They kept going flat in the cold, and changing a tire along the road with the little screw jack in the winter is not an experience I want to relive. After discussing it, the dealer advised replacing all the tubes with natural rubber tubes. That seemed to solve the problem, but in retrospect he probably also covered the nipples on the spokes, perhaps the real problem. But then again, the problem never happened in the summer, only that first winter.

Another problem was with the SU carbs. They would ice up in cold weather, which prevented the carb pistons from moving. The car would be hard to start, and occasionally in really cold weather the pistons would ice up again while I was driving, and the car would stall and lose power. My mechanic at the time suggested I take a pan of hot water and pour it over the dashpots to free them up. Amazingly, this would get the car going, so I kept a sauce pan in the car in the winter. I recall one instance I was driving east on I94 out of St. Paul when the car started to lose power, so I pulled off the road and drove to a residential area along the freeway. I pulled up to the first house I found and knocked on the front door. A very nice old lady opened it, I gave her the pan and asked her to fill it up with hot water. She never said a word but took the pan, filled it with hot water and gave it back to me. I went back to my car, poured the water over the carbs and was on my way. I often wonder what she must have thought I was doing. Today she probably would have called the police.

Rust of course is the curse of all cars, and especially Healeys. Although I did frequently wash the car, it still developed rust in the rocker panels, floor pans, and dog leg areas. It also had rust on the trunk (boot) floor. In just the second year of ownership, the gas tank had to be replaced because it had rusted out and ruptured while a mechanic was working on the brakes. It leaked gas all over his shop. (He was not pleased). The rust was eventually repaired during the car's restoration, but at considerable expense.

We all like to complain about the "Healey hotfoot," but you wouldn't complain about it in the winter. The car was drafty but surprisingly warm. I could even crack a window. Defrosters generally worked Ok as did the wipers. And it was one of the few cars on the road with a windshield washer. So, aside from the issues above, for its time the Healey was a decent winter driver.

Time Flies

by John Hatzung

Does anyone else have boxes of old car magazines in boxes in the basement? These days I get *Car & Driver* and *Road & Track* online, limiting print to *Grassroots Motorsports*.

But for a significant part of my life, time limited my focus to photos and the occasional article on my possible next car. That might account for my inability to throw them away. When Lisa discovered what was in the boxes on the shelves in the laundry room, they quickly moved to the shop, where I spent an afternoon reading Peter Egan, David E. Davis, Warren Weith, and Gene Shepard columns, as well as road tests on cars I had owned or lusted after.

A few treasured, worn, and coverless editions from the sixties came from my cousin Gary, who raced a bug-eye, Datsun 510, and I think a Nissan on Paul Newman's team back in the day. Those got me hooked. The rest have delivery addresses dating back to my student days living at home and tracking my residences to the present day.

I think these old columns and articles are more interesting to read now than when they were written, probably for the context of the many years that have passed, but also because of a better appreciation of great writing: the hook, the prose, the special common experiences and feelings that the cars bring out, especially those I didn't have the time or resources to experience personally.

Cover to cover, some of my favorite reading is the classifieds. Per the April 1976 *R&T*, you could pick up a:

1963 AUSTIN HEALEY 3000 BJ7 convertible
Colorado red w/red interior Excellent condition, complete and original. Always garaged, stored winters.
Many new parts, plus Blaupunkt AM-FM, Diehard, Mitten \$3000. Ronald W. Dalton, Bull Road, Harwinton, Conn 06790. (203) 555-5555.

Or a:

1965 AUSTIN HEALEY 3000 Mk II roadster.
Excellent condition. New top, steel belted radials, Armstrong shocks, carpet and engine Overhaul. Mechanic retired Air Force Colonel. British Racing Green with black interior. \$2800. Zack Tullery, Box 5555, Station A, Durant, Okla., 75701. (405) 555-5555

Better yet:

1950 AUSTIN HEALEY Silverstone, serial no. E60.
Rare (105 made) cycle-fendered aluminum roadster. Factory supercharged. Excellent condition, complete and original, low mileage. \$10,000 or offer. C. S. Carroll, 170 Weatherill Rd., Garden City, N.Y. 11530



Hagerty has the Silverstones running in the \$170K range. I guess stocks would be a better investment.

SAVE THE DATE!



SPRING KICK-OFF



30TH ANNUAL VINTAGE FOREIGN CAR SHOW

MAY 20, 2023 OSSEO, MN

FEATURED CLUB
VSCR:
VINTAGE
SPORTS CAR
RACING

THANK YOU TO THE CITY OF OSSEO FOR ITS CONTINUED SUPPORT

SPONSOR CLUB LIST AND EVENT DETAILS TO COME. VINTAGE FOREIGN IMPORT CLUBS CAN RESERVE 50 FEET OF PARKING FOR \$100. SPACE IS LIMITED. EMAIL INTERMARQUE@GMAIL.COM TO INQUIRE.

Since many of us are preparing to put our cars into winter hibernation, now is a good time to remind you to save the date of Saturday, May 20, 2023, for next year's InterMarque Spring Kick- Off (SKO) car show. Again, we hope to fill the main street of Osseo, MN with cars from area car clubs. The 2023 event will once again include valve-cover racing and a Peoples' Choice award, with ticket proceeds going to a local Girl Scouts group.

Every year we select one marque or club to be featured, and for 2023, the Vintage Sports Car Racing Club has been chosen to display their cars in front of the Osseo City Hall. The VSCR is an organization, founded in 1975, for

those who like to race their cars in Vintage Car Race events. They race both closed and open wheel cars around mostly in the Midwest, including Brainerd International Raceway. Samples of these cars will be on display.

The InterMarque Spring Kick-Off is a family event that runs from 9 AM to 3:00 PM. We look forward to seeing you there.

Dick Leighninger
SKO Chairman



**The Minnesota Triumphs
Sports Car Club
will be hosting another
South Beach Rendezvous
in 2023.**



**Come enjoy Lake Superior's
South Shore in historic
Ashland Wisconsin
for 3 fun nights
and event filled days.**

2023 Rendezvous

June 8-June 10 at Ashland, Wisconsin

MN Triumphs are the host club for the 2023 Rendezvous, an annual multi-marque gathering of clubs in the upper midwest and Canada.

Get Registered

Registration is open now! Basic registration is \$130 for two people and one car, with options to add guests, vehicles, banquet dinners, and event t-shirts.

Attention early birds! Everyone who registers before May 1st, 2023 will be entered in a drawing for a refund of the basic registration fee (\$130).

Online Registration (Preferred – Check or Credit)

or

Fill and Print Form

Location

Our host hotel is [The Chequamegon Hotel](#), located right on the shore of Lake Superior. Book your room now by calling 715-682-9095.

The [Cobblestone Inn and Suites](#) (715-682-5066) is also giving us a block of rooms with the rate.

For both hotels, be sure to mention that you're with the sports car Rendezvous event, otherwise you will be told they're full and you won't get a room.

Room availability update: As of December 2022, The Chequamegon Hotel is full, but there are still some rooms left at the Cobblestone Inn and Suites.

Schedule of Events

This schedule will evolve as we finalize more details!

Thursday

- Afternoon: Registration, Bar/Deck will be open for lunch & drinks
- Evening: Welcome/meet & greet Deck Party, Chequamegon Hotel (hors d'oeuvres)

Friday

- Touring
- Autocross
- Shopping
- Trolley ride
- Dinner on your own

Saturday

- Morning car show downtown (charity event)
- 1 pm Poker run, starting downtown with bi-directional figure 8 course
- 5 pm Social Hour on the deck then dinner banquet

Rendezvous 2023 Update

The 2023 Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous will be having an early bird drawing for everyone who registered before May 1st for reimbursement of their registration fee.(\$130 value) Registration is by mail or online @ <https://www.mntriumphs.org/2023-rendezvous-online-registration/>

I'm happy to say that with both hotels are reporting that our block of rooms is almost gone, The Cobblestone Inn will expand the number of rooms available at the discounted rate. For both hotels, be sure to mention that you're with the Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous event, otherwise you will be told they're full and you won't get a room.

The [Cobblestone Inn and Suites](#) (715-682-5066) [The Chequamegon Hotel](#), 715-682-9095 When both these hotels fill up, the town of Ashland still offers a wide range of accommodation up and down the price scale.
<https://www.visitashland.com/plan-your-visit/lodging/>

Thursday June 8, registration will open at [1.pm](#) at the Chequamegon with a funkhana going on in the parking lot across the street followed by a Meet & Greet, deck party with drawings from 6 till [9.pm](#)

On Friday the Madeline Island trip by ferry will leave at [9.am](#).
<https://www.madelineisland.com/> This year's ferry pricing is \$31 for a car plus \$17 per person. For those who want to sleep in, other tours will be run on a more leisurely start of 10.30. The schedule of driving events and activities planned are shaping up, and we'll keep adding updates to our website as they're available.

Saturday will be even busier with a Car Show, Autocross and Poker Run finalizing with another party/banquet on the deck at The Chequamegon Hotel.

The team of volunteers from the Minnesota Triumph Club invites everyone to come and enjoy the beautiful roads and meet the great people that make this get together such a success every year.

Register now at <https://www.mntriumphs.org/2023-rendezvous-online-registration/>

Patrick Holt
Minnesota Triumphs

Rendezvous in the Black Hills

Foreign Motor Car Rally
August 17-20, 2023



Mt. Rushmore



Crazy Horse

All Marques Welcome



Presidential Hospitality Suite and Limited Block
of Rooms at the Lodge in Deadwood
For Reservations call 877-393-5634

If you have questions contact Bob at
rendezvousintheblackhills@gmail.com

Don't forget to renew your membership!

**Go to <https://healeyclub.org> and
click Join**

Instructions for joining the Minnesota Austin Healey Club:

MAHC “local only” members:

For MAHC “local only” members renewal price is \$30.00.

Get the Membership Renewal form on the next page of the Nov/Dec 2022 *Healey Enthusiast*, or

- a. Go to the MAHC website at <https://www.mnhealey.com/>
- b. Click on **Membership**.
- c. Scroll to the bottom of the page.
- d. Click on **Membership Form**.
2. Print and fill out the form.
3. Enclose your check for \$30.00.
4. Mail to Jim Kriz at the address on the form.

MAHC/AHCA (local and national) members:

For MAHC/AHCA members you will receive reminder to renew. Below are detailed instructions:

1. Go to <https://healeyclub.org>
2. Click **Join** and then on **Click here** on the part of the screen shown below:



Already a member? [Click here](#) to login and renew your membership.

3. Log in using your new username and password. The first time, you can change the password to something that is more intuitive. Save both to a safe location.
4. In the upper left of the screen, you should see your name and a red dot. Click on the red dot.
5. Follow the instructions on the screen. Note that you have an opportunity to add information for secondary and/or tertiary members, such as a spouse.
6. On the Payments screen you can choose whether to pay with a credit card online or by mailing in a check.

As always, if you have questions, concerns, or crises, please email me (Jim Kriz, Membership Director) at jkriz1@comcast.net or call/text me at **612-321-0123**. I may not have a ready answer, but I know where one can be found!



Minnesota Austin-Healey Club
Jim Kriz – Membership Director
2000 Kenwood Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55405
612.321.0123
jkriz1@comcast.net

MAHC Membership Form (for Local only members)

Minnesota A-H Club Dues (Local only)	New	Renewal	\$30.00
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Dues for both Minnesota AH-Club and Austin-Healey Club of America Dues

\$20 Minnesota + \$70 National	New	Renewal	\$90.00
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Name: _____ Spouse/Friend: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Day () Evening: ()

E-mail address: _____

Spouse/friend email (if they want MAHC email): _____

HEALEY INFORMATION:

Year	Model	Color	Original Owner (Y/N)
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Year_____ **Model**_____ **Color**_____ **Original Owner (Y/N)**_____

Condition: Show Quality Nice & Roadworthy
Could be running with help Restoration Project

Make checks payable to: MN Austin Healey Club (or MAHC)

Checks covering AHCA membership renewals must reach Jim Kriz no later than **January 15, 2023**, to assure that your information appears in the 2023 AHCA Membership Directory.

Send form and checks to: **Jim Kriz**
2000 Kenwood Parkway **Minneapolis,**
MN 55405

2023 MAHC Events Calendar

Day	Date(s)	Description	Time	Place
Wed	5-Apr	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Wed	3-May	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Fri-Sun	19-21 May	SVRA Vintage Festival Weekend		Elkhart Lake
Sat	27-May	Cars and Caves Car Show	9:00 AM	Chanhassen AutoPlex
Sat-Sun	27-28 May	Street Car Showdown		Brainerd International Raceway
Sun	20-May	Intermarque Kickoff		Osseo, MN
Sun-Fri	21-26 May	Conclave 2023		Crystal River, FL
Wed	7-Jun	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Thurs-Sat	8-10 Jun	Rendezvous		Ashland WI
Sat	24-Jun	DTCT track day		Dakota County Technical College
Sun	25-Jun	Intermarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
Wed	5-Jul	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Thurs-Sun	13-16 Jul	WeatherTech International Ch	8:00 - 5:00	Elkhart Lake
Sun	30-Jul	Intermarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
	Jul/Aug	Wetzel Tour and Party		Wetzel House
Wed	2-Aug	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	Aug	Brit Fest	AM	Hudson WI
Fri	4-Aug	DTCT Track Day		Dakota County Technical College
Sun	27-Aug	Intermarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
Sat-Sun	2-3 Sep	Labor Day Brainerd Race		Brainerd International Raceway
Wed	6-Sep	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sun	17-Sep	Lynch Mexican Fiesta	3:00 PM	Mike Lynch Home
Fri-Sun	15-17 Sep	Aviens Art on Wheels Vintage	8:00 - 5:00	Elkhart Lake Road America
Sun	24-Sep	Intermarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
	Sep?	Waumandee		
Wed	4-Oct	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	7-Oct	Wisconsin drive and breakfast	tentative	
Fri-Sun	13-15 Oct	Ozark International Raceway		
	Oct?	Fall Color Tour		
Wed	1-Nov	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	18-Nov	Banquet		Joseph's Grill
Sat	2-Dec	2024 Planning Meeting	9:00 AM	Joseph's Grill

InterMarque Breakfasts

Contact Todd Bjerknes
to be added to email list
for the week's location
RSVP to
tbjerknes46@gmail.com

InterMarque Newsletter

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

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 that the ad can be removed.

No ads this issue.

