



Healey Enthusiast

Volume 35, Number 1

January 2024



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Upcoming Events

Wed	07 Feb	PIE
Wed	07 Mar	PIE
Sat	02 or 09 Mar?	Scott McQueen Tech Session
Wed	03 Apr	PIE

See the website for details: www.mnhealey.com

Minnesota Austin Healey Club (MAHC)

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Websites

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

PIE

(President's Informal Evening)

Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024
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:

John Hatzung
Dave Herreid
Steve Rixen
Rich Stadther

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: Let's Do It in the Road

January's PIE meeting gave those who attended a glimpse into the future. A good vibe and cheer await us with many a club event in the coming year. During the meeting members stepped up and offered help and suggestions. It made for a quick meeting. Events being considered got a post-it note and then attached to a date on a calendar. The calendar was then transcribed onto a digital file that can be found in this newsletter. The year ahead will have two major club events, both within a day's drive of the Twin Cities (Rendezvous in Thunder Bay and the Road America Conclave in Wisconsin). In addition, social gatherings, car drives, and racing events will entice us from the mundane. In all there will be plenty of reasons not to mow your lawn this year.

Keep in mind that planning is still occurring, including firming up some additional events, help with the Road America Conclave, and planning for the 2025's MG Club / MAHC Rendezvous in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. So, the 2024 schedule in today's newsletter will evolve with additional events, and existing ones may be adjusted in the months to come ... stay tuned this year to the current newsletter and/or website (www.mnhealey.com).

If you want more car stuff, consider joining many of us at Elsie's every Saturday morning at 9 am. Elsie's Bowl is a restaurant / bowling alley in N.E. Minneapolis where the InterMarque Club hosts breakfast, (InterMarque is a foreign car club that can't decide on a mark or a country). They are responsible for the Spring Kick-off car show each spring. But the Saturday meetings almost never discuss club business. Rather it's just table talk about cars and stuff while drinking coffee and having a classic American breakfast ... alas, no haggis, kippers, or blood sausage in sight. If you would like to go, email: intermarque@gmail.com so that they can have an approximate number of attendees to pass along to the restaurant.

Until we meet again,

***Happy Trails to You,
Dave Herreid***
President Minnesota Austin Healey Club

PIE & Planning Meeting Notes 1/3/2024

by John Hatzung

Old business:

- Liz Stadther is taking over the membership and email lists from Daphne Walmer. Thanks, Liz!!

Upcoming Events:

- We spent most of the meeting planning 2024. See the calendar at the end of the newsletter.
- John Hatzung will explore a possible autocross event in June.

2025 Rendezvous

- In 2025 MAHC will host with the MG Club. Suzanne and Greg Willodson got an invitation to a phone meeting about future Rendezvous's and delayed MAHC's participation until 2025. We need to start planning for it early in 2024. Paul and Sue Lyons Thunder Bay. Sugar Bay Lodge is reserved. Date TBD. Autocross. Bill Connell will do website? MAHC and MG Club need to present our plans for 2025 at the Thunder Bay Event in June 2025.

Attendees: Dave Hatzung, John Hatzung, Dave Herreid & Daphne Walmer, Deb & Charlie Klima, Jay Jacobson, Jim Koltavy, Dick Leininger, Jeff Lombard, Scott McQueen, Dan Powell, Steve Rixen, Geoff & Diane Rossi, Liz & Rich Stadther, Clarence & Kate Westberg, Gary Wetzel, and Greg & Suzanne Willodson.

Lucas Distributor Problems

by Steve Rixen

While attempting to help a Healey Sprite owner get his car back on the road after an extended COVID-induced storage, the last problem was that the now-driving car quit after a few miles.

Since this problem had been a topic BC it had found its way into the recesses of my mind. After thinking for a few hours about this problem, I called and asked whether he had a black or red rotor installed in the distributor.

"Black" he said.

"Does it have a brass rivet in the arm on the rotor?"

"Yes."

"Okay, now you need to replace the rotor with a new one from your favorite supplier, probably red in color, without the rivet."

"What can go wrong with a ROTOR?" was his response.

I admit I was skeptical that the above scenario was true until it happened to me and several of my customers years ago. It seems the plastic which had been used in production of the late run replacement rotors had a high carbon content. Carbon is a common conductive element used in radio interference resistance ignition wires. The carbon in the black rotor's plastic would break down and become more conductive, especially where the securing rivet would provide a path to ground on the rotor shaft.



The red rotors come in a common 4-cylinder and longer 6-cylinder versions; sometimes marked as such on the metal portion of the rotor. If you are skeptical, as I had been, I'd recommend ordering one and carry it in the car until your car runs poorly and/or quits for a quick replacement test, although I'd suggest a prophylactic replacement of the black rotors.



Membership Form
(for Local only members)
Curt Carlson – Membership Director
Minnesota Austin-Healey Club

Dues for both Minnesota AH-Club and Austin-Healey Club of America
(\$20 Minnesota + \$70 National) Renew or Join via www.healeyclub.org \$90.00

Minnesota A-H Club Dues (Local only) New or Renewal \$30.00
(circle one)

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) _____

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

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

Local only make checks payable to: MN Austin Healey Club (or MAHC)

Send to:
Curt Carlson,
1984 Nebraska Ave E,
Saint Paul, MN 55119

MAHC Planning Calendar 2024

Day	Date(s)	Description	Time	Place
Wed	7-Feb	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Wed	7-Mar	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	2 or 9 Mar?	Tech Session	10:00 - 1:00	Scott McQueen's
Wed	3-Apr	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	27 Apr?	Potential Rixen garage visit/Tech Session		
Wed	8-May	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Fri-Sun	17-19 May	SVRA Vintage Festival Weekend		Elkhart Lake
Sun	18-May	Intermarque Kickoff		Osseo, MN
Sun-Fri	25-26 May	Harvey West Memorial Day Classic Races		Elkhart Lake Road America
Wed	5-Jun	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Thurs-Sat	6-9 Jun	Rendezvous		Thunder Bay, Canada
Sun	30-Jun	Intemarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
Wed	3-Jul	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Thurs-Sun	12-14 Jul	WeatherTech WIC	8:00 - 5:00	Elkhart Lake Road America
Sun	28-Jul	Intermarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
Sun	Jul ?	Lynch Mexican Fiesta	3:00 PM	Mike Lynch Home
Wed	7-Aug	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	10 Aug?	Brit Fest	AM	Hudson WI
Sat-Sun	24-25 Aug	Jack Pine Sprints racing		
Sun	25-Aug	Intermarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
Sat-Sun	2-3 Sep	Labor Day Brainerd Race		Brainerd International Raceway
Wed	4-Sep	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	7-Sep	Wheels and Wings		Osceola
Fri-Sun	13-15 Sep	VSCDA Vintage Weekend	8:00 - 5:00	Elkhart Lake Road America
Sun-Fri	15-20 Sep	Conclave 2024		
Sun	24-Sep	Intermarque picnic		Cherokee Regional Park
Sat-Sun	28-29 Sep	Waumandee		
Wed	2-Oct	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Fri-Sun	12-13 Oct	Ozark International Raceway		
Sat or Sun	Oct TBD	Fall Color Tour		
Wed	6-Nov	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	16-Nov	Banquet		Joseph's Grill
Sat	7-Dec	2025 Planning Meeting	9:00 AM	Joseph's Grill

Other Potential Calendar Events

Day	Date(s)	Description	Time	Place
	?	Amery Timed Car Track Event		Amery WI Airport
	?	Potential long-weekend car tour		
	?	Wetzel Tour and Party		Wetzel House
Oct	?	Herreid Pizza Party		Herreid Cabin

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.

Healey 3000 parts for sale: A club member since 1975, I'm clearing out some parts. I previously used them, and they worked fine when I installed a Smitty kit and HD8 carbs.

Email: dpowell45@comcast.net

- \$1000 Center shift transmission with O.D. and bellhousing
- \$1500 HS6 (1.75") tri-carb setup with professionally ported intakes
- \$150 Brake servo (new in box)
- \$100 Front shock conversion kit (shocks are old)

1967 Sprite for sale. California body on a rotisserie now. Included is a Datsun 5-speed transmission hooked up to a 1275 that Ernie West rebuilt, with the head and carbs flowed, punched out to .60 over. This ran great in my prior 1969 Sprite. Lots of spare parts, and two MG Midget parts cars. \$7000. Contact me at healemog@yahoo.com Tom Politiski

Sold. (Sigh)

'67 BJ8, ONE OWNER, 38000 Mi.
QI driving lights, roll bar,
luggage rack, BRG, new clutch,
air horns and Abarth exhaust;
clean, well-treated car! Ask-
ing \$2400. Ph: (303) 321-2909
Ken Hall, 6784 Cedar Avenue,
Denver, Colorado. 80222

