

Healey Enthusiast

Volume 36, Number 6

October 2025



Scott McQueen enjoying his 1st place win of the Founder's Cup Race at Road America. Photo courtesy of Carol Johnk.

Upcoming Events

Wed 1 Oct PIE

Sat 4 Oct Rixen Tour and Party
Fri–Sun 10–12 Oct Ozarks VSCDA Racing

Sat 11 Oct BMC Stiff Upper Lip 2025 Open House Tues–Wed 21–22 Oct Fall Color Tour Driftless Northern Tier

Wed 5 Nov PIE

Sat 15 Nov Annual Meeting and Banquet Wed 3 Dec PIE and 2026 Planning Meeting See the website for details: www.mnhealey.com

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Minnesota: National:

www.mnhealey.com www.healeyclub.org

PIE

(President's Informal Evening)

Date: Wednesday, October 1, 2025

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:

Cliff Black **Curt Carlson** Dave Hatzuna **Carol Johnk Grea Lauser** Kim Rixen Steve Rixen Liz Stadther

Eileen Wetzel

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

> Current and past newsletters: www.mnhealey.com/newsletters/



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 nonmembers. 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 Emeritus Column



This article is really just a short thank you to my friend **Steve Brown**. He gave me a personal tech session that I'll never forget! The story starts one day when Steve says to me, "when's the last time you checked the fluid in your Healey's steering box?" I said that I check the engine oil and the radiator fluid, and that's about it. I guess I assumed that when I brought my car in to have other things done, the mechanics were looking and checking whatever else "needed checking." Boy, was I wrong.

I took Steve up on his offer and headed out to his beautiful house on the hill overlooking the Minnesota River valley. He has a garage where he keeps and works on his cars, and he had pulled out his Healey and had me pull into that space, right next to his covered MGTF. And then that's when it started ... he pointed to a super greasy box in the front driver's side of the engine well and handed me a socket wrench and said, "Let's open that and see what we've got." We somehow got that open, and he takes a small wooden stick and puts it in the hole to check the fluid

level, and there is nothing! So, he gets out the fluid container, and we somehow manage to fill that up. THEN, he says, "Do you want to check some other box on the other side of the engine compartment?" and I say sure. That was another "not easy thing to do." And of course, that was stone dry. We filled that up.

Then Steve says, "Have you checked the shock absorber boxes lately?" Well, you know what the answer to that was. I said, "Let's do it," and he tells me we have to pull off each wheel to do that. So we did ... long story short, they were also all empty!!! We then checked the transmission level and then the differential (?) and they were OK.

All in all, kind of a fun day. Made me happy to have a friend like Steve to guide and direct me. It probably is what a lot of the "racer" members experience at the track when something goes wrong with their race cars ... everyone pitches in and helps fix their car, or at our PIE meetings when someone is having issues with their car. There is a lot of help and comments on what is wrong and what the remedy may be. It made me happy to have my Healey and arateful for all the people I've met and the fun that I've had because of it.

Dave Hatzung

PIE Meeting Notes 9/3/2025

by Daphne Walmer

New member: Matt Miron has a kit car version of a Healey (which is for sale), and he just bought Chuck Ash's Healey. He is open to being a board member. He says he has a lot to learn about Healeys.

Curt Carlson drove the BJ8 that he bought from long-time club member Don Heath, which had not been driven for 18 years. He bought it knowing he'd need to do a lot of work.

Several of the **racers** were in Watkins Glen. Eileen & Gary Wetzel, Jim Koktavy and Jaime Horner, Greg Thompson, Greg Wold, and Scott McQueen are on their tour to several racing venues. Dan lburg is also hanging out with them; he bought a Sprite. Jaime hit a wall.

Past Events:

- **Briffest** in Hudson, WI, Sat Aug 9. Steve Brown brought the only Healey; it was wet.
- **Grattan VSCDA racing** in Michigan Fri-Sun15-17 Aug.
- **CAN-AM Invitational Vintage Racing**, in Manitoba, Sat-Sun 16-17 Aug. Rich Stadther went. Wonderful people. Great fun. Finished and drove onto the trailer.
- Jack Pine Sprints VSCR racing 22-24 Aug in Brainerd. Rich finished and drove onto the trailer.
- Cars & Coffee Aug 30. Dave Hatzung, Curt Carlson, and Matt Miron went. There were two or three Healeys.
- Cars & Caves Sat 30 Aug
- InterMarque picnic 31 Aug. Kim and Steve Rixen went. Large turnout. Lots of Triumphs.

Upcoming events

- Wheels & Wings Sat 6 Sep. \$25 cash per car. Includes an air show. Out in the middle of the airfield, so bring sunscreen. Good show.
- Ariens VSCDA Vintage Weekend racing 11-14 Sep. Good one to go to. If you want to go, ask one of the racers about getting a crew pass or unlimited extra crew pass.
- **Waumandee** 27 Sep. Rich Stadther and Charley Klima are going, and someone thinks Jim Koktavy is going. Blank Hill Road this year. Already sold out.
- Cars & Caves German Cars 27 Sep
- InterMarque picnic 28 Sep. MG Club is sponsoring.
- Lynch Mexican Fiesta 28 Sep. RSVP by 9/22 to Mike via phone
- PIE 1 Oct.
- Fall Color Tour Driftless Northern Tier 21-22 Oct (Tues-Wed) Thurs-Fri 23-24 if rain dates. See below
- InterMarque breakfast. Every Saturday morning there's an InterMarque breakfast at Elsie's.
- Every other Sunday there's an InterMarque coffee across the street from the old Schmidt brewery on west 7th and approximately Randolph. Bring a nonperishable food item to donate.

Old Business

Color Tour: The Lausers and Rossis decided to shorten the tour, staying in Winona and lunching
in Larry's Lookout in Arcadia or the Monarch in Fountain City. Greg talked to Cliff Black, who
lives in Winona and recommended staying in the Holiday Inn Express and eating at the River
City Grill across the parking lot. Everyone needs to make their own motel reservations. The
second day Cliff is going to recommend local roads around Winona. The tour will be going

down as far as Lanesboro and up through White Water State Park on 74. They'll be on 61 as little as possible and taking back roads back to Hastings. Planned dates are on a Tues–Wed, October 21–22. Rain dates are 23–24. If anyone only wants to go for one day, they could head back on 61 anytime on the first day.

- **Window sticker:** Curt reports that the artwork is already, and Dave authorized the expenditure, but Curt hasn't gotten to the stickers manufactured yet.
- Tom Politiski has been given lifetime membership by the board.

New Business

Healey Parts: Curt Carlson proposed a garage sale/free market/parts swap event next year.
 This might be easier than the parts repository that Fred Ambli proposed, because it wouldn't require that someone devote part of their garage to storage or have to manage the inventory.

Officer Reports

- With today's new member we now have 72 members. Renewals will be due soon. National members renew through the national website; local only members through Curt Carlson.
- Liz says we're solvent; made \$30 this month; still waiting for final \$800 check from Rendezvous.

Attendees: Curt Carlson, Dave Hatzung, Dave Herreid & Daphne Walmer, Charley Klima, Greg & Nancy Lauser, Matt Miron, Dan Powell, Steve & Kim Rixen, Geoff Rossi, Rich & Liz Stadther, and Erik Wesman.



Photo courtesy of Curt Carlson



Minnesota Austin Healey Club fall drive to Rustic Roots Winery

Date: Saturday, October 4

Time: 11 a.m.

Starting point: Steve and Kim Rixen's home, 5995 Highview Place, Shoreview,

Minnesota.

Join us for a short fall drive to Rustic Roots Winery in Scandia, Minnesota. We'll take you along scenic roads leading toward the St. Croix River. Enjoy wine, beer, non-alcoholic beverages, good food, and camaraderie.

For those who want to join us at the winery, the address is 20168 St Croix Trail N, Scandia.

Questions? Contact Steve (612-877-1938) or Kim (612-590-6513).

BMC Stiff Upper Lip Open House

Join us at BMC British Automobile on Saturday, October 11, from 10:00 am–3:00 pm. Hard-core British car owners who drive here with their classic are promised a Stiff Upper Lip experience with that cool fall breeze.

We Welcome All, whether you arrive in a Classic or Not ... Some club driving events start and end here. Create your own independent group drive from anywhere in the state for this event. Check with your local British Car Fans and join up! Come meet other British car owners, see those hard-core owners who drive their British Classics long distance deep into the end of the driving season! We'll have hot cider and coffee ready, and something to eat at No Charge. Dust off that paper road map and drive the winding back roads to BMC British Automobile at 444 East Dual Blvd., NE Isanti, MN 55040. Open house will happen rain, snow or sunshine. Hope to see you there.

Fall Color Week Days Tour October 21-22

Drive the Driftless Area's Northern Tier

After two days and more than 600 miles driving the Driftless Area, the Lausers and Rossis have decided on a shorter tour with an overnight in Winona, Minnesota. We'll spend Day One enjoying backroads and natural attractions on the Wisconsin side of the Mississippi. Please join us for an excursion that will highlight towns, byways and scenic vistas in Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, and Trempeleau counties. If you can devote just one day to the tour, we'll be in Winona in time for an easy US 61 commute back to the Twin Cities.

Day Two will feature communities and curvy roads through portions of Winona, Fillmore, Wabasha, Goodhue and Dakota counties (mostly off US 61) back toward the Twin Cities. There will be plenty of opportunities for stopping, shopping, and noshing through Rushford, Lanesboro, White Water State Park, Wabasha, and Lake City.

Rain dates will be October 23–24. As we get closer to October and more precise weather predictions, further details will come your way. Regardless, those who plan on the overnight in Winona must make their own accommodation reservations. We hope you'll join us. If you plan to come, please email Greg Lauser at greglauser@gmail.com and indicate whether it will be for Day One or the full tour.

Healey Club stickers have arrived!

Get yours at PIE! These are NON-ADHESIVE vinyl cling stickers. No risk of damage to your car! Meant for the inside of the windshield, these can also be applied to the bodywork if desired. Scanning the QR code takes visitors to the membership page of our website!

Help promote the Minnesota Austin Healey Club!

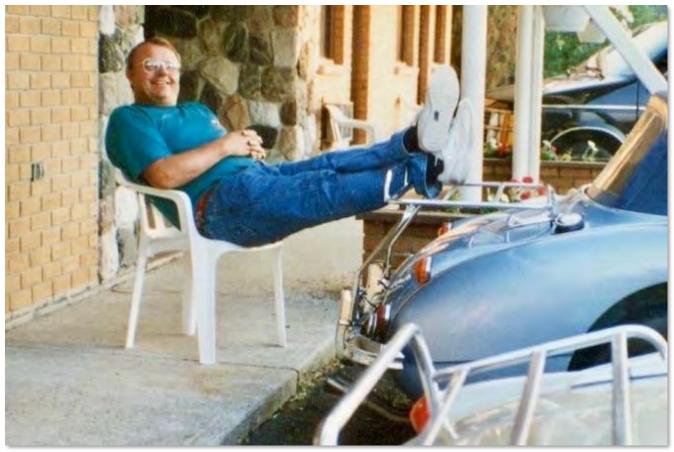






Tom Politiski Lifetime Membership

by Geoff Rossi



Geoff Rossi, Chairman of the MAHC Board, announced the advancement to Lifetime Membership of Tom Politiski was approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club on August 20, 2025. Listed below are some of Tom's many contributions through the years.

- Minnesota Austin Healey Club member since 1983.
- Chapter vice president and president.
- Newsletter editor for five years and responsible for its title, The Healey Enthusiast.
- Co-initiator of the first Rendezvous with Glen Paterson in Thunder Bay in 1991.
- Involved in the 2001 and 2019 MAHC-hosted National Conclave planning committees.
- Attendee of multiple Conclaves, Rendezvous, and other significant Healey events.
- The member who started Club regalia in late 80s with windbreakers and shop rags, and with note cards in the 90s,
- Assembled and wrote a detailed account of the founding and early history of MAHC.

Tom joined the fledgling second edition of the Club in 1983 after meeting Barb and Gary Ronning at the 1982 Healey International Meet in Snowmass, Colorado. Tom has been a very active member up until a few years ago. He has been the Minnesota Austin Healey presence and representative in the Otter Tail Lake region for the past 40-plus years.

Congratulations to Tom on this well-deserved recognition for his long service and commitment to the Minnesota Austin Healey Club!

Wheels & Wings

by Tom Wolters

There were two Healeys at the car show at Wheels & Wings on September 6, 2025. The BRG Healey is my100-6, which won for the 50-59 imported car class. The attendance was fantastic. There were many interesting cars, a lot of families, and a great air show. Things were a bit soggy at the end, but those with appropriate clothing hardly noticed the rain.









Elkhart Lake Vintage (Fall) Festival

Our neighbor Jim Koktavy told your editor that no one came out of this fall's races unscathed. At Lime Rock, Jaime Horner spun her Triumph and ran into a tire wall, and I saw its smashed rear end in their pole barn. At Road America, Eileen Wetzel had a front-end crash. She's okay, and Jim said the car looked surprisingly good considering. (Healeys are a lot tougher than the Triumphs!) Jim accidentally downshifted his Healey #28, but it will be okay.

Jim and Jaime bought Jessica Johnk's original BMW so that Jaime would have something to race at Elkhart Lake. At least ELVF produced a lot of great photos.



Above: Dan Powell and his grandson Jake on the grid.

Below: Dan buckled up and ready to go. Courtesy of Cliff Black



Bottom right: Dan Powell, as a veteran, was picked to wave the start flag for the VSCDA enduro race at Road America's Ariens Art on Wheels. Proceeds of the race are awarded to Disabled American Veterans organization. It was a fitting task for Dan, who is also celebrating his 40th year of racing at Road America.

Courtesy of Eileen Wetzel



ELVF (continued)

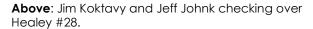


Left: Scott McQueen gets into his Healey #106.

Middle right: Rich Stadther and his Elva. **Bottom**: Scott McQueen and his Healey #106.

Courtesy of Cliff Black.





Courtesy of Carol Johnk.





ELVF (continued)





Top: Jeff Johnk acting as Jessica Johnk's umbrella boy while giving her last-minute advice before the race begins.

Left: Jaime Horner with Jessica Johnk after finishing the races at Road America with her newly acquired black BMW, formerly owned and raced by Jessica.

Bottom: Jessica and Jaime reliving the race they just finished in their BMWs while dogs Cooper and Olive try to hear the details.

Courtesy of Carol Johnk.



ELVF (continued)



Top: Jaime Horner next to Jim Koktavy driving his Healey, with Liz and Rich Stadther in his Elva in the background.

Middle left: Scott McQueen won the Founder's Cup Race on Sunday. This is Scott's second time on the podium for this race, since he also won it in 2024.

Middle right: Liz Stadther standing next to Rich in his Elva.

Bottom: Scott McQueen thanking his car for his 1st place win with a kiss.

Courtesy of Carol Johnk.







Racing Friendships





Top: Liz Stadther shared this photo from the ELVF racing event September 13 at Road America. She notes that it provides a feeling of the friends-helping-friends activity that goes on under the MAHC tent.

Courtesy of Liz Stadther

Bottom: September birthdays being celebrated during the Fall Festival at Road America. From left, Jessica Johnk, Carol Johnk, Michael Manser, and Betsy Lumbard.

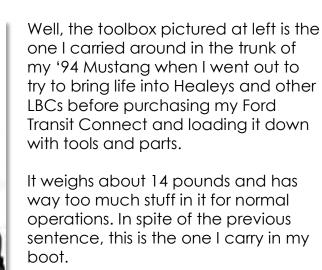
Courtesy of Carol Johnk

Healey Roadside Tech Session Toolography

by Steve Rixen

What tools do I need to do basic maintenance on a Healey?





Flashlight: Braun rechargeable with magnetic base



Wrenches: Two small wrench sets of 3/8, 7/16, ½, 9/16 will cover about 90% of roadside repairs. One set would be open end and the other box end because many bolts have nuts needing to be held. Two sets of combination box/open end will work as well. A 13/16 combination wrench for tightening the seeping Banjo Bolts on the fuel system is about the only large wrench you may need. The wrench in the photo is the small wrench used when adjusting Fuel/Air Mixture on H and HS carbs. Not shown in its tool kit.

Sockets and ratchets: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch ratchet with a short, medium and maybe longer extension, one or more having a "wobble" end, along with $\frac{3}{16}$ through $\frac{1}{2}$ standard and/or deep sockets $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch drive ratchet with extensions as above, and $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ standard sockets, as well as a $\frac{13}{16}$ spark plug socket.

Screwdrivers: Standard Blade of small, long enough to adjust HD Carburetor mixture screws, medium and large enough to double as a pry bar.

Phillips #1, #2 and maybe a #3. A stubby Standard and Phillips maybe as well.

Special Tools:

Electrical: A small VOM and con a continuity tester as pictured, if you can find similar. A short jumper wire with alligator clip ends.





Feeler gauges for points (0.015) Sparkplug (0.025 to 0.035) and rocker (0.012) adjustment.

Vice Grips: Small and medium, if you feel you must. Pliers, straight and/or channel lock.

SU Carb Adjusting tool from Moss Motors as pictured with a length of tubing to synchronize carb airflow and an adjusting tool appropriate to your carburetors.

Consumables:

- Small roll of electrical tape
- Small roll of wire
- Small tube of dielectric grease
- Small sealed container of DOT 4 Brake Fluid (great paint remover!)
- One quart of whatever oil you are running in the crankcase and carb dashpots
- Spare 1157 bulb.
- Spare fuses of whatever amperage are in use in your fuse box.

Whatever else gives you confidence enough to get out of the garage and on the road!

From the Archives

by Curt Carlson

I like to highlight articles from the earlier years of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club. It's interesting to read how the club came together. Frankly, it was mostly matter-of-fact reporting about club events and activities. Summer drives always included a stop with beer/wine/food and winter events included progressive dinners, movie nights, and tech sessions.

NOTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 7th TECH SESSION

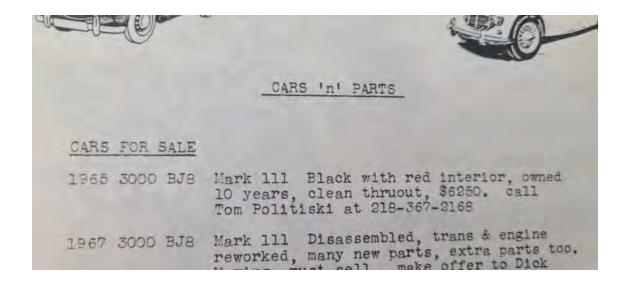
Attendence was good, approximately 20 club members gathered to learn about the inner workings of the Healey overdrive unit. (Several bugeye owners seemed to be making big plans for a conversion unit for their cars....perhaps a new land speed record bugeye is in the works???).

Dave Heims put on another of his super tech sessions...even your editor felt more comfortable with the mysteries of the overdrive after Dave was done. I figured out that if my overdrive ever needs work I will promptly get it to Dave...then there is no mystery (or left over parts).

The business portion of the meeting consisted primarily of discussing upcoming events and discussing the need for a calling committee. Jeff also announced an all British night at Stroh's brewery, which was sponsered by the Triumph club. The information on this event was received between newsletters and only those who attended the tech session found out about it. Had our calling committee been in operation at that time we would have been able to get the information to all members within a day or two. Dennis Wiese is looking for a few good members to help him on this....give him a call!

I had to miss the Stroh's night, but Jeff said that it was excellent...lots of beer and British car enthusiasts, a couple of videos and slide presentations...sounds like a Healey type of event.

August 1986



May 1985

Marketplace

Cars for Sale by Don Heath, 612-616-4369, Donrose96@msn.com

1957 MGA with 106,000 miles

- Red with black interior from a Moss kit.
- Replaced the black top from Robbins.
- Tonneau cover included and Pirelli tires with good tread but older.
- Started 3 years ago and I found a gas leak under the car. Been parked since.
- Needs a new battery.
- Asking \$16,500.

2000 Honda \$2000 with 31,000 miles

- Silverstone Metallic color.
- 240 hp with a 6-speed transmission.
- Black top and interior.
- Excellent tires.
- Asking \$31,000.







MAHC Membership Renewal time is here!

It's renewal time! Once again, here's a reminder.

If you are a NATIONAL member, please renew online using www.healeyclub.org.

If you are a LOCAL only member, send your renewal check for \$30.00 to me at:

MAHC Renewals

Curt Carlson 1984 Nebraska Ave E Saint Paul, MN 55119

MAHC 2025 Membership (primary members only)

	Number of memberships	New in 2025	Expired 12/31/2024
Local	28	1	4
National	43	3	3
Total	71	4	7



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				
Name: <u>Spouse/Friend:</u>					
Address:					
City: State Zip:	<u>; </u>				
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 2025 Calendar

Day	Date(s)	Description	Time	Place
Wed	1-Oct	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Fri-Sun	10-12 Oct	Ozarks VSCDA Racing		Ozark International Raceway
Sat	11 Oct	BMC Stiff Upper Lip Open House	10:00 AM	BMC British Automobile
Tues-Wed	21-22-Oct	Fall Color Tour Driftless Northern		
Wed	5-Nov	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Sat	8-Nov	National AH Club Delegates Meeting		Indianapolis, IN
Sat	15-Nov	Annual Meeting and Banquet	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Wed	3-Dec	2025 PIE and Planning Meeting	6:00 PM	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 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 xsitems have been sold during the three-month period, so that the ad can be removed.

Free! Contact Fred at 218-348-3178.

- Four sets of ceramic-coated manifolds.
- Upper and lower radiator hoses, Kevlar variety.
- Three drive lines that are sized for the original 4-speed and overdrive
- One set of rear resonators that are still in the bubble wrap, plus several exhaust parts
- Two BMC radios
- Two steering shafts that were working fine when removed

For sale: BJ8 overdrive unit, rebuilt by Jean Caron, \$800, and 4-speed transmission for BJ8, \$500 or best offer. Contact Fred at 218-348-3178.



Classic Roadsters Kit Car for sale Replica of 1962 Austin-Healey 3000

This beautifully built car is ready to hit the streets. The current owner has put close to 10K into getting this vehicle daily-driver ready. It is always garaged stored and has been very well maintained. Under the hood is a 289cd V8 with new spark plugs, new electric points, an Edebrock aluminum intake and Edelbrock 4bbl carburetor (recently tuned). It is backed by a C4 3-speed automatic transmission and 9-inch rear axle. This vehicle is equipped with new rack and pinion steering, disc brakes, aluminum radiator, 2700 CFM electric cooling fan, headers, dual exhaust, heater/defrost, new tie rods and bushings, Holley Retrobright LED headlights, new radio with Bluetooth and speakers, and the convertible top was made new within the last year. This is a great turnkey car you can drive coast to coast with no worries. We have original documentation, receipts, etc. Contact Matthew Miron, mimiron@frontier.com or 651-895-2589.



