



Volume 37, Number 2

Healey Enthusiast

June 2026



Tom Politiski wants to prove his car gets driven. By the way, it's for sale. See the back page.

Upcoming Events

Wed	3 June	PIE
Tues	9 June	Plains Zoom Tech Session
Thurs-Sun	11-14 June	Rendezvous
Fri-Sat	19-21 June	Blackhawk VSCDA
Sat	27 June	Ice Cream Social
Sun	28 June	Intermarque Picnic
Wed	1 July	PIE
Thurs	3 July	Donald Healey's birthday
Sat	11 July	Tour to Rustic Roots Winery

See the website for details: www.mnhealey.com

Minnesota Austin Healey Club (MAHC)

Staff

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Membership & Historian	Curt Carlson 612-251-7492
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Board of Directors	John Hatzung Dave Herreid Jim Koktavy Matt Miron Greg Willodson

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100	Mike Manser
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, June 3, 2026
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:*

Chad Edwards
 Charley Klima
 Steve Rixen

Please send submissions 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 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.

What Needs Be Done

Rubber Edition

by Steve Rixen

I asked a club member what I should talk about in my Presidential Column this month. The reply wasn't to request my insightful and cogent thoughts on the state of our club activities, or our hobby or the import of and tariffs on British parts and inflation of fuel prices as it affects our drive to Selkirk for Rendezvous.

The reply was of a technical bent... **tyres**, (tires) and other parts that people should check out once in a while.

So, here we go.

Discount Tires won't repair tires that are older than 6 years, so if you put new tires on for the drive out to Deadwood for Conclave 2019 and then the lack of movement for two or near three years that came shortly thereafter, your tires are out of date at Discount Tire. Other repair shops times vary.

If you look for recommended replacement information at other places, five years is too long. Other opinions on the interweb are 10 years if the car has been garaged for the time. You all know what opinions are like ...

Bridgestone/Firestone/Michelin advises that replacement in the 6-to-10-year time frame, with inspection by a tire replacement professional if the tires are five years old or older. Information on the Bridgestone website claims that not driving/exercising the tires on a regular basis negatively affects the chemical balance within tire body itself.

Okay, I'll buy into that, they are the professionals.

So how do you know when your tires were manufactured? The DOT started requiring the dating of tires starting in the 90s by placing a three-digit number on the sidewall of each tire. If you look at your tires and see a 3-digit number in an oval molded into the sidewall, I advise you to replace them. In 2000 the DOT changed to requiring a 4-digit number in an oval and/or later the last 4 digits of the serial number molded into the tire. The four digits equate to WEEK-WEEK-YEAR-YEAR of the 21st Century. For example, 4419 would be the 44th week of 2019.

It is time for new tires if your car has been stored on tires what went flat, or they were left outside in the weather for years, or they show sidewall or between-tread cracks, or if they are worn down to near the wear bar ridges between the treads. Period.

If you have been vigilant about keeping the tires inflated during winter storage, none of the fails listed in the above paragraph are apparent, and you are passing lucky, your tires may be good for this year's driving season.

If you find your tires are, in fact, past your personal use-by date, I do have some ideas I will pass along now. If I'm selecting a tire for your collector car, I will select a tire that is rated commensurate with the ability of the car.

The code on the tire sidewall will be: P 165 / 75 SR 15 82 H, where:

P	Passenger tire
165	Tread width
75	Aspect ratio (if a number is not there, it is 80) sidewall height to tread width
SR	Steal-belted radial construction
15	Wheel diameter
82	Load rating
H	Speed rating (T is 118, H is 130 mph sustained speed)

So, for a Big Healey my recommendation is 175 R 15. This is a tire that is approximately the same diameter as the original 5.50 or 5.90-15 BIAS-ply tire it probably came with. That is about 25+ inches. This will bring the revolutions per mile down to 800 or less and your speedometer and odometer closer to reality. These 175 widths and 80 aspect ratios were and are difficult to find.

Vredestein Sprint Classic tires are available in a 165 HR 15, which is 25.4-inch diameter H speed rating, which is superfluous to most street Healey needs. It fits on the wire wheels you may have on your car.

UTOG (Unified Tire Quality Grade) are 220 A B. This means that the tires are relatively soft and quiet and will wear quicker than a 300 or 400 rating, but it makes the tire stickier and have better traction grade of A on a scale of AA, A, B, C, and a B temperature grade for sustained use of 100 to 115 MPH. Not Likely!

These tires are listed at Tire Rack for \$153 each \$612 for a set with free shipping. Check your supplier for their recommendations.

Sprites are usually 145 width and 13-inch diameter stock. A 14-inch 8-spoke Mini-Lite type wheel purchased and installed gives a larger tire selection option as a common upgrade. I personally always look for the largest diameter I can find that will fit on the appropriate wheel to cut down the tire revolutions per mile for lower engine RPM and contented cruising at any given speed. The early 165 R 15 Michelin Z or XZ or XZX radials commonly installed on our cars reduced the tire diameter with mechanical and car appearance impacts.

Tires aren't the only thing made of rubber that should be of concern to the Healey owner ... at least annually.

In Aviation parlance, the following items are "On Condition Replacement" items:

- Generator/alternator belt cracked, separated, or glazed/squealing.
- Brake and fuel hoses swollen, cracked, or seeping.

- Radiator and heater hoses swollen and soft, cracked, or seeping. Part of this cooling system check should be to check the antifreeze level and condition. It should be flushed or reconditioned to maintain reserve alkalinity and chemical balance. Green every 3 years and Orange every 5 years. If you have an aluminum radiator or head or block, this is very important, and Orange Long-Life antifreeze is good insurance for long service life and aluminum component protection.
- Engine and transmission mounts soft, cracked, or broken.
- Suspension and drivetrain mounts and bushings soft, cracked, or deteriorated.
- Brake system needs to be flushed every 2 to 3 years to save the rubber/neoprene internal cups, seals, and gaskets, as well as the rust/corrosion and pitting of steel or aluminum brake components by getting rid of the hygroscopic moisture, which naturally accumulates in the brake system fluid even if it isn't used.
- Wires aren't rubber, but they suffer from similar deterioration over time and they run through grommets which are, and wire coverings are attractive to the rodents with which we share our world. (Some wire manufacturers are using wire with covering made with a soy oil component. "Very tasty!" say Mickey and Minnie.)

The Moral to the Story if I may say...

It all goes to heck even if you don't drive it, so you might as well drive it, enjoy it and use it. It will last longer and bring more smiles if you do.

HEALEY ON!

PIE Meeting Notes 5/6/2026

by Charley Klima

What we did last month

- Steve Rixon had a tech session at his shop.
- Scott McQueen had another great event at his car palace in March.
- Events we had scheduled last month were postponed for various reasons.

What we will do next month and beyond

- Intermarque Kickoff 5/16. Austin-Healey will be featured brand in 2027.
- Intermarque picnics are ongoing last Sunday of the month.
- Dave Cassman open garage to be rescheduled.
- Eileen telling us about a Legacy Passport – document for the car that is for future owners presenting resources available from the national organization. Information to be provided to active members of the national group.
- Dawson electrical tech session to be re-scheduled.
- Tech session 5/14th at 7pm via Zoom.
- Registration is still open for Selkirk Red River Rendezvous June 11-14.
- Registration is open for Conclave in Galena (September).
- Event at Horse and Hunt Club July 29th 11-1. Flyer coming out in June.

What do you want to talk about?

- Daphne and Steve actively looking for a new newsletter editor. Anyone?
- Liz is looking for a new treasurer. Anyone?
- Curt C: 68 members currently.
- Charley proposed a drive to Hungry Hollow engine show 6/28. Info forthcoming.

Attendees: Dave Herreid and Daphne Walmer, Steve and Kim Rixen, Charley Klima, Gary and Eileen Wetzel, Eric Wesman, Scott McQueen, Greg Willodson, Curt Carlson, Jay Jacobson, Phil and Stef Dawson, Dick Leighninger, Matt Miron, Dick Leighninger, Jeff Lumbard, Jeff Johnk



2026 Red River Rendezvous

June 11 - 13, 2026

Selkirk, MB



Join us June 11th to 13th, 2026 in Selkirk, MB for the 34th Annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous! Returning to a Manitoba location for the first time since Pinawa in 2008.

Check back often as more details will be added as planning continues.

Presented By



We are now in the final two months until Rendezvous 2026 in Selkirk! We encourage you not to delay registering as a late fee will be applied to any registrations submitted after May 11th. Also, there is a seating capacity limitation on the room the Saturday Banquet is being held in. While we are hopeful that it will be big enough to hold everyone, tickets will be allocated based on order of registration. For both reasons, we suggest you register early.

Everyone that has registered should have received an email from me via the "registration@rendezvous2026.com" email address indicating that their registration and payment was processed. If you have not received such an email it may mean that your registration has not been received. If in doubt, don't hesitate to send a message to registration@rendezvous2026.com to confirm.

Reminder that the host hotel is now fully booked. That is over 80 rooms filled with fellow vintage sports car enthusiast! If you have a room booked but your plans change, please do not cancel your room before checking with your fellow club members, or us, to see if there is someone that would like to take your reservation. Room cancellations with the hotel will be available for anyone to book, and we would like to ensure that fellow Rendezvous attendees have first chance at them. There are still rooms available at the alternate hotel if you have not yet made a booking. Information for that hotel, as well as general event information, can be found on the event web site, <https://rendezvous2026.com/>.

We look forward to seeing you to Selkirk this June!

Chad Edwards

2026 Rendezvous Organizing Committee



Wednesday, July 29th, 2026
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Join us for a scenic lunch at:



Enjoy Great Food and Classic Cars!



RSVP Today!

We hope to see you there!

mjmiron@frontier.com

Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Prior Lake Horse & Hunt Club

2920 220th St E, Prior Lake, MN 55372



Date and Time: Sunday, September 13, 2026, 8:00 AM until Friday, September 18, 2026, 5:00 PM Central Time (US & Canada) (UTC-06:00)

Join us for the 50th anniversary of AHCA's treasured national event—a golden milestone of fellowship, driving, and Healey heritage. This year's celebration takes us to Galena, Illinois, a historic town set amid one of the most geologically fascinating landscapes in the country: the Driftless Region.

The Driftless Difference Unlike much of the Midwest, the Driftless Region escaped the flattening effects of the last Ice Age. The result is a landscape of dramatic bluffs, winding rivers, and valleys that feel more like the Appalachians than the prairies. For Healey drivers, this means one thing: roads with character. Tight curves, rolling climbs, and breathtaking vistas make this a driver's paradise—without needing to trek to the mountains or coasts.

Why Galena? Galena itself is a jewel—rich in history, with 19th-century architecture, cozy restaurants, and boutique shops just a short drive from our host venue at Eagle Ridge Resort. It's the perfect base for a week of spirited driving, good company, and new adventures.

Highlights of the Week • Scenic Touring: Discover the Driftless Region on curated drives designed for Healeys. • Driving Fun: Autocross, funkhana, and other events to test both skill and creativity. • Austin-Healey Car Show on the river: Celebrate Healey beauty on the show field with the Mississippi and downtown Galena as the backdrop. • First-Timers Meetup: A special welcome for newcomers—get connected from day one. • Explore Galena: Wine tastings, walking tours, and cultural outings for those looking to explore off the road. • Banquet & Awards: Close the week with a celebration of 50 years of Healey gatherings.

Join Us Be part of history. Registration is open now! We look forward to seeing you at a Conclave 50 - 2026

Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa

Eagle Ridge Website

444 Eagle Ridge Drive
Galena, IL 61036
USA
800.892.2269

[Register here](#)

2027 European Healey Meeting

At the Healey Museum this summer, Jeff Johk heard about the next Europe Healey meeting coming in 2027. He knows more than a couple Australians who have in the past shipped their Healeys to Europe and raved about this event. Great Europe scenery, great people and great driving experience in their Healeys. If you ever want to see Europe in your Healey ... this is it. Jeff brought home this great poster.



Marketplace

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

1957 MGA 1500 roadster with 106,000 miles

- Red with black Robbins top and Moss interior.
- Owned since 1976
- It does have a gas leak and has been stored for the last few years.
- Asking \$18,000 or best offer



2000 Honda S2000 in Silverstone Metallic

- Four-speed 240 hp with 31,000 miles.
- 240 hp with a 6-speed transmission.
- Black top and interior.
- Good tires.
- Fun care to drive.
- Asking \$32,000.



**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 2026 Calendar

Day	Date(s)	Description	Time	Place
Wed	3-Jun	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Tues	9-Jun	Plains Zoom Tech Session	7:00 PM	
Thurs-Sat	11-14 Jun	Rendezvous		Selkirk, Manitoba
Fri-Sun	19-21 Jun	Blackhawk VSCDA		South Beloit, Illinois
Sat	27-Jun	Ice Cream Social		Selma's Afton/? Delano
Sun	28-Jun	Intemarque picnic	1:00 PM	Cherokee Regional Park
Wed	1-Jul	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Thurs	3-Jul	Donald M Healey's Birthday 1898		
Sat	11-Jul	Tour to Rustic Roots Winery	10:00 PM	Starting in Centerville
Tues	14-Jul	Plains Zoom Tech Session	7:00 PM	
Thurs-Sun	16-19 Jul	WeatherTech WIC		Elkhart Lake Road America
Wed?	Jul	Miesville Baseball Game		
Sun	26-Jul	Intemarque picnic	1:00 PM	Cherokee Regional Park
Wed	29-Jul	Summer Lunch	11:30 AM	Prior Lake Horse & Hunt Club
Wed	5-Aug	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Tues	11-Aug	Plains Zoom Tech Session	7:00 PM	
Sat	8-Aug	Brit Fest	AM	Hudson WI
Fri-Sun	14-16 Aug	Grattan VSCDA racing		Grattan Michigan
Sun	16-Aug	Wetzel BBQ & Drive		Wetzel House
Sat-Sun	29-30 Aug	Jack Pine Sprints VSCR racing		Road America Elkhart Lake
Sun	23-Aug	Intermarque picnic	1:00 PM	Cherokee Regional Park
Wed	2-Sep	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Tues	8-Sep	Plains Zoom Tech Session	7:00 PM	
Sat	12-Sep	Wheels and Wings		Osceola
Sun-Fri	13-18 Sep	Conclave 2026		Galena IL
Fri-Sun	18-20 Sep	Ariens VSCDA Vintage Weekend	8:00 - 5:00	Elkhart Lake Road America
Sat	26-Sep	Waumandee Time Trials		Alma/Waumandee WI
Sat	26-Sep	InterMarque Lift Garage Car Show?		
Sun	27-Sep	Intermarque picnic	1:00 PM	Cherokee Regional Park
Sat	3-Oct	Herreid Pizza Party		Herreid Afton House
Wed	7-Oct	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Fri-Sun	9-11 Oct	Ozarks VSCDA Racing		Ozark International Raceway
Sat	10-Oct	BMC Stiff Upper Lip		
Tues	13-Oct	Plains Zoom Tech Session	7:00 PM	
Sat or Sun	17-Oct	MG Fall Color Tour		
Wed	4-Nov	PIE	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill

Sat	6-8 Nov	National AH Club Delegates Meeting		Indianapolis, IN
Tues	10-Nov	Plains Zoom Tech Session	7:00 PM	
Sat	14-Nov	Annual Meeting and Banquet	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Wed	2-Dec	2027 PIE and Planning Meeting	6:00 PM	Joseph's Grill
Tues	8-Dec	Plains Zoom Tech Session	7:00 PM	
Mon-Fri	7-11 Jun 2027	Austin Healey 75th Anniversary Meet		Lake Tahoe, CA

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.

1967 Austin Healey 3000 for sale. I have been the second owner since 1984. I have driven it to Conclaves in Colorado, Michigan, Quebec, and Illinois. Dr. Ernie recently rebuilt the engine, and Dan Iburg just overhauled the overdrive, so it is ready for the road. HBJ37328 is a bit cosmetically impaired with some dings and dents and minimal rust, and one repaint from years ago before I owned it. Original top and interior, but the carpeting is shot. I need \$38,500 to complete the sale to a good home. Contact Tom Politiski at healeymog@yahoo.com.

