



New England News

The Newsletter for members in the New England Region of the

Austin-Healey Club of America

NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, NH, ME & Northern NJ

From the editor

Carole Paye

Spring should now be well on its way by now. I am sitting at our laptop watching the snow fall. Ice tomorrow and no acceptable weather for a couple of more days. Oh, well. That's March for you. Again, thanks for all of you who have switched to email. We are now at 212 and counting. Snail mail has decreased from 280 to 195. Good work!!

I have received six suggestions for our newsletter name. I know that there must be more out there so get your head out from under the hood and send me more suggestions.

I am setting the first day of the month as the deadline for submissions for the newsletter. That gives me a couple of days to finish the newsletter and send to the printer. Email members should receive theirs by the 3rd of the month...snail mail members somewhere around the 8th. I am still getting undelivered emails. If you know someone who has changed their email, please tell them to notify me!

OK, so you have decided to host a meet. I need you to email me a write-up about it..You know..who, what, where & when and "whow" much \$\$\$. I need it at least two months in advance so everyone can get excited about your meet, can plan on attending and can rsvp by your cut off date (usually 4-7 days before the meet). Those who plan to attend, please respond by the deadline so the host will know how many to plan on. Meets are designed to be self supporting financially so be prepared to estimate the cost of the food so attendees can chip in to the cost.....

So...get your write-ups to me and any advertisements you want included in the May issue of the ...

??????????? Newsletter

From the President:

Well it happened to me again. I learned something new and re-learned something old. No matter how hard I try, I cannot seem to avoid learning new things. In the process I relearned something I have taken for granted over the years. The thing I learned was how to easily remove the pilot bushing from the crankshaft of my Healey. The item I relearned was the irreplaceable value of club membership.

I was almost done with the disassembly phase of my clutch replacement when I ran into that brick wall of inadequate knowledge and experience. My problem was a stubborn pilot bushing I had to remove from the end of the crankshaft. Before I started my initial fiddling and running down blind alleys, I could both spin and wiggle the bushing by hand but it seemed to be hung up on a lip at the end of the crankshaft. After fiddling with it I was able to improve the situation to where it would not move at all! (two steps backward) Then the dangerous engineering thinking in me took over and I spent days dreaming up some sort of device that could reach in and grab the inner lip and hook that to a slid hammer and hammer it out. (I later learned such a tool exists). It was after a few fits and starts and, according to my wife, retreats from the garage mumbling in frustration all the while with a busy work schedule hanging over my head I finally sent out an APB e-mail to the "old salts" of the club (gentlemen I use the term affectionately) and asked for help. They all came back recommending the "hydraulic method". I had heard of this method but was rather skeptical as the bushing seemed to have no desire to part company with the crankshaft.

The hydraulic method, which is based on firm engineering theory, is to fill the cavity behind the bushing with grease then use a rod as a piston to create pressure in the cavity that will push on the back edge of the bushing with enough force to remove it from the crankshaft. I started with using my clutch alignment tool as the piston but the fit was too loose to allow enough pressure to develop. I was still skeptical but I had a 3/4" steel rod turned down to .745" on one end and it fit perfectly. Three quick raps on the rod with the hammer and the pilot bushing slid out onto the rod. With the right diameter piston and correct technique the process takes about 5 minutes if you are slow. I can't tell you how many hours I agonized over it (but my wife can).

The intent of this month's column was not to provide a pilot bushing removal method in painstaking detail (which I did) but to emphasize the value of membership in this club. If you ever run into a problem with your Healey, I can guarantee that someone else in the club has previous experience with your exact problem and can tell you what to do, or more importantly what NOT to do. I have relearned the value of that once again. The most important lesson is to not hesitate to ask. See all of you on the road soon.

Safe journey,
Bill Berg

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2009 Current Calendar of Events

Date	Event
May 15-17	Carlisle Import and Kit/Replica Carlisle PA Denny Broughel/ Bob Bender
May 30, 2009	Newcomers Meet Mansfield, MA Peter Sturtevant
June 6 - 7	MMSCC British Car Weekend Camden ME Jim Lea
June 7	British Cars by the Sea Harkness Memorial State Park Waterford, CT Dave Barton
June 14	Del Web Open House Plymouth, MA Steve Bell
June 21 - 26	Conclave 2009 Kingston, Ontario Canada AHC Ontario
July 12	Valley Classic Wheels Charity Benefit Car Show Simsbury, CT Robert Scalla
July 18	Scavenger Hunt Enfield, CT Deb Krut
July 25	VT Mountain Peak Tour Meet in Brattleboro, VT Bob Britton healeybj7@hotmail.com
August 1	Great Barrington, MA Meet Tom & Jean Andrews
August 6 - 9	Encounter 2009 Pocono PA
August 8	Lazy on the Lake Webster, MA Keith Risk
August 15	Beckley Furnace Walk East Canaan, CT Walt Michaels
August 15	Rallye to Gillett Castle & Ice Cream Social Old Saybrook, CT Bill Pollack
September 4-7	Lime Rock Park Denny Broughel
September 11-13	New England AHCA Fall Light House Tour Eastham-Cape Cod, MA Pete Williams (Prafe@aol.com)
September 18-20	British Invasion Stowe VT Paul Dunnell
September 20	Simsbury Air Fly-In Car Show (rain date 9/27) Simsbury, CT Robert Scalla
October 10	Monadnock Fall Foliage Rally Hancock, NH Contact Bob Britton healeybj7@hotmail.com
October 17	Progressive Gastronomy Event Wethersfield, CT Deb Katz/Bev Sealand
December 5	Christmas Party Sturbridge, MA Betty Bender

Carlisle Import /Kit Car Show

May 15-17,2009

The New England Region of the Austin Healey club of America has, for many years had a presence at this event. There is a merry band of enthusiasts that arrive in Carlisle the Wednesday prior to the show. Bright and early on Thursday morning we go to the fair grounds to set up our tent and put our items out for sale (old parts). We also sell regalia, offer membership information and have a wealth of car knowledge to offer to people.

The show is actually open to the public on Friday through Sunday, but the last day is pretty sparse as most venders pack up late Saturday to prepare and drive home on Sunday. The contingent of Austin Healey club members welcomes other members or enthusiasts to come and join us. If you would like to have more information on our bonding mission to Carlisle, Pa you can call me at 518-663-8879 or email at brougheldp@gmail.com.

Denny Broughel

PS. We also race go-carts at night

Lime Rock Park Announces a New Plan for the 2009 Running of the Vintage Festival, Labor Day Weekend

LAKEVILLE, CT (11 February 2009) – Preparations for the 27th Annual Vintage Festival on the traditional Labor Day weekend are well underway. The buzz is in the air as plans are being made, racing formats are changing and the car show is expanding. There is a new regime on board as Skip Barber, owner of Lime Rock Park, has nominated Murray Smith as the Event Chairman and the Vintage Sports Car Club of America (VSCCA) as the sanctioning body for the festivities.

The past Vintage Festival organizers, Steve Earle and the General Racing Team, have decided to concentrate on the organization of the Monterey Historic Races. In the past, Smith has been the director of the Sunday in the Park car show but has now gladly accepted the challenge of organizing the entire weekend event.

Smith is a well-known competitor in all forms of motorsports in a wide variety of vehicles but perhaps less recognized for his management experience in the field. He is past Chairman of BMP, the organization which runs the four major British Championships, Formula 3, British Touring Cars, GT and Superbikes and he is also a past member of the FIA Formula One Management Commission. Smith was the founder of the extraordinary Louis Vuitton Classic at Rockefeller Centre and also the instigator and organizer of the Legends Historic Racing event at Mont Tremblant in Quebec. He was also the first to recognize the commercial potential of historic and classic car events and has been successfully involved with sponsorship development at Goodwood, the Nurburgring, Monterey, Silverstone, Monaco and with Barrett Jackson in Scottsdale, AZ. Smith is already planning interesting developments for the Lime Rock Park Vintage Festival in 2009.

Classes for sports, GT and racing cars from the dawn of motor racing until the 70s will be catered for. The organizers will make sure a schedule of accepted entries happens early allowing potential participants to plan ahead.

Smith promises more track time for participants this year and while the traditional sprint events will take place on the Saturday and Monday mornings of the event, optional two driver races of approximately one hour duration will also be introduced as part of the afternoon programs. Special features anticipated this year are to include a race and demonstration of some of the great front-engine, single seat racing cars, a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Morgan Marque, a one hour endurance race for the FIA race cars of Le Mans, Sebring and Daytona...and feature races for VSCCA eligible sports and racing cars.

Sunday in the Park, the unique and highly anticipated car show of the Vintage Festival, will be substantially expanded this year. The goal: to line the entire 1.53-mile circuit with show cars. This extravaganza features everything from World War II amphibious vehicles to vintage motorcycles, to the most splendid of the great classics like Duesenberg and Bugatti – all in a picnic garden park atmosphere in Lime Rock Park's secret valley.

And for the fans...expect to see more racing and less warm-ups, marquee car corrals, fan hospitality packages, courtesy shuttle golf cart rides, an autograph session, guest speakers, paddock tours and more.

If you wish to enter your car to race or to show in the Sunday in the Park car show, please send your inquiries via email to vintagefestival@limerock.com or by snail mail to Lime Rock Park (c/o Vintage Festival) 497 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, CT 06039. For further information call 800.RACE.LRP.

Here are some photos Steve Pike sent me from down under I thought you guys might enjoy.

Have A Great Day!! Dave Barton

Streamline car →



Endurance car ↓



REGALIA SALES

Item	Color	Sale Price	Small	Med.	Large	XL	XXL
SWEAT	BLUE	\$13.50			2		
“	GRAY	“			2	6	
JACKET	RED	\$30.00				3	
“	BLUE	“		2			
“	GREEN	“					
MEN’S SHORT SLEEVE	DENIM	\$12.50	11	14	2	7	
MEN’S LONG SLEEVE	“	“	10	7			
LADIES SHORT SLEEVE	“	\$12.50	9	15	21	7	
LADIES LONG SLEEVE	“	\$12.50	6	2	2	4	
MEN’S POLO	YELLOW	\$15.00	6				
“	BLUE	“	6				
“	WHITE	“					
LADIES POLO	YELLOW	\$15.00	4	5	9	8	
“	BLUE	“	1	6	10	8	
“	WHITE	“	4	7	12	6	
MEN’S T SHIRT	CHAMBRAY	\$6.00	10				
“	BRICK	“	10		4		
“	BLUE	“	8	5		3	
LADIES T SHIRT	BLUE	“	5		1		
“	MELON	“	4		7	2	
YOUTH T SHIRT	BLUE	“	1	1	1		
“	BRICK	“	1				
PATCH		\$3.00	Plenty	in	stock		
LOGO PIN		\$1.50	Plenty	in	stock		

Contact Bob Bender for orders and shipping information.....(413) 684-3934

AHCA Eastern MA/RI Region – “Newcomers meet”

Saturday, May 30th 10 AM to 4 PM
10 Cedar Ridge Lane, Mansfield, MA 02048
508 339 1582

Ever wish you could inspect under your Healey without crawling on the ground? Want to adjust your brakes without jacking up the car and using jack stands? Do you have a nagging problem with your Healey, and would like some advice from knowledgeable “experts” in the area?

Here is your chance to get your Healey ready for the summer. Pete and Cindy Sturtevant will host the “Newcomers meet” and provide the facilities of a four bay workshop. The workshop is complete with a four corner post drive on lift, a scissor lift for suspension work, Compressor with air tools, and a full array of hand and power tools.

Starting around noon we will have a Tulip Rally through the back roads of Southeastern Massachusetts ending with late lunch at an English Pub.

Please RSVP your attendance to Pete at: healeybn4@comcast.net
or call 508 509 5517 by May 26th

Directions: From Route 495, take exit 10, Route 123 East (E. Main St.) towards Easton. Approximately, 1 mile from the exit, take your first left onto Newland St. Follow Newland St. for 1.3 miles, and take an immediate left, at the Mansfield town line, to Cedar Ridge Lane. We are the second house on the left, number 10.

2009 New England AHCA Fall Light House Tour

Save the dates, September 11, 12 & 13

and plan on spending the weekend touring the lighthouses of *Old Cape Cod*.

Photo Contest - Beach Sand Castle Competition - Wine Tasting

Friday: Hit some on the list as you arrive on the cape
6:00 à Kickoff Dinner Party – Pot luck cookout at the William's in Eastham

Saturday: We are putting together a tour of some light houses and points of interest for a fun day of healeying. The target for this tour is to structure it so you can do it on your own, at your pace, or hook up with a group and enjoy driving around the outer Cape. The entire tour is about 125 miles, 9 light houses and more than 10 key points of interest and ends at Wellfleet Harbor, where we will enjoy a Billigate Light Dinner. Without stopping it should take about 4 hours but we know that will be imposable. The driver's package with include commentary, directions, mileage and the approximate time needed to get to dinner on time from each location will be available on the web-site and at the Kickoff Pot Luck dinner Friday. Over the spring and summer we will be fine tuning this weekend venture and as details develop, will post them in the newsletter and on the website.



Sunday: Send off Breakfast – 7-11:00 at the William's in Eastham
Find the ones you missed as you depart for home

If you have questions or would like to sign up
contact Peter Williams at Prafe@aol.com

Let's change our newsletter's name!!!

Got any good ideas....email Carole your suggestions.....You might win a \$1,000,000!
Probably not but we're trying to find a prize for the best name!

Conclave 2009

If you plan to attend Conclave 2009

June 21-26 in Kingston Canada

Visit www.conclave09.com

for information, registration form and event schedule
REGISTER SOON!!!!



Bob Abbott and Dave Altman are available to get your car ready for worry free summer driving.
All phases of repair and restoration available, reasonable rates-timely service.
Pick-up service can be arranged
Call Bob at 603-425-3333
Or
Dave at 508-577-0077

FOR SALE

1960 Austin Healey MK I Bugeye Sprite is in very good condition. Iris Blue exterior with dark blue interior. Radio with cassette tape player. Custom built speakers. 4-speed manual transmission. Rack & pinion steering. Rebuilt front suspension. 95,677 original miles. Many upgrades. In-line oil cooler. Front disc brakes. Rebuilt 1275 cc engine at 71,789 miles. Excellent performance. New Tires. New soft top & tonneau cover. Luggage rack. Original appearance and complete. Extra Parts. Service records & original 'Bill of Sale'. Only 3 owners. Must see to appreciate.

\$11,500 OBO

Rick Ryan

Wakefield, RI.

Call #401-932-8855.

Must sell by 4/30/09.

Newsletter Deadline!!!!

All meet write-ups and advertisement
1st day of issue month.

Tin Knocking “Magic” In New Hampshire

By Don Paye

Saturday, March 20th turned out to be a great early spring day. Although a bit chilly to take a ride in the 3000, about ten members of the New England chapter of AHCA including one new member, traveled to the Lake Sunapee area where Jon Thompson, owner of Sports Car Specialties, was hosting a tech session. We were joined by a hand full of other car enthusiasts at Jon’s new restoration shop in Grafton, NH. For many years, Jon has been working his “magic” on body panels for a wide variety of antique and classic cars. There are many body shops who do very good work, but very few understand the true nature of sheet metal when it comes to form and shape, whether be it steel or aluminum. After a brief lecture on the various procedures used in building panels for automobiles, Jon continued to explain how some body panels, including those on Austin Healeys, by the nature in which they are produced result in built up “stress”. This results in some unexpected challenges when one starts to cut into a fender to make repairs only to discover that the fender needs to retreat to its original unstressed state. Before long Jon had attached a heavily damaged front 100 wing to a jig and began demonstrating his skill with hammer and dolly as the headlight area quickly regained its original shape. All the while Jon was explaining the technique he was using with hammer and dolly to either shrink or stretch the metal as needed. Other steps in bringing the fender to near perfect condition were demonstrated.

After being treated to a wonderful lunch of lasagna, meat balls and deli sandwiches, we moved on to the process of making a paper pattern. From this step Jon showed the various steps involved with forming (or shaping) a panel from scratch using a English Wheel and other equipment in the newly constructed shop. On display for everyone where two current projects being completed by Sports Car Specialties, an early Porche Coupe and a phase one BJ8 owned by club member Ron Diurba of Grafton, MA. Ron’s car is a total restoration beginning with a Jule frame. Jon and his assistant Josh have added many hours building exacting repair panels to reconstruct pretty much every panel on this car. The end result will be that Ron’s car will have excellent fit and finish.

To those who were unable to attend and may be interested in learning more about Sports Car Specialties, visit their web cite at www.sportscarspecialties@wildblue.net or you can visit the shop at 444 Dean Road in Grafton, NH but you better call ahead for directions as Jon and Gus love the remote rural setting where they perform their “MAGIC”. Many thanks to Jon Thompson for a very informative and entertaining day.

Jon Thompson—the “Magician” ↓



↓ Ron Diurba (standing) and his BJ8



Jon T. & new member Bruce Ketchen →



As many of you know, Don owns a Sunbeam Tiger. Recently Don and I hosted a meeting of TEAE (Tigers East, Alpines East) as they began planning for their "Conclave 2010" called United 2010. In order to help those attending to recognize our location, we took our LARGE stuffed tiger and put it on the snow bank by the road. Here is the write-up that Robert did for their newsletter

"Save a Tiger"

Yesterday we had a meeting about the Untied 2010 at the home of Don Paye in Shelburne Falls, MA. Just so we could find his driveway Don had put this large stuffed Tiger near the road. We couldn't miss that!

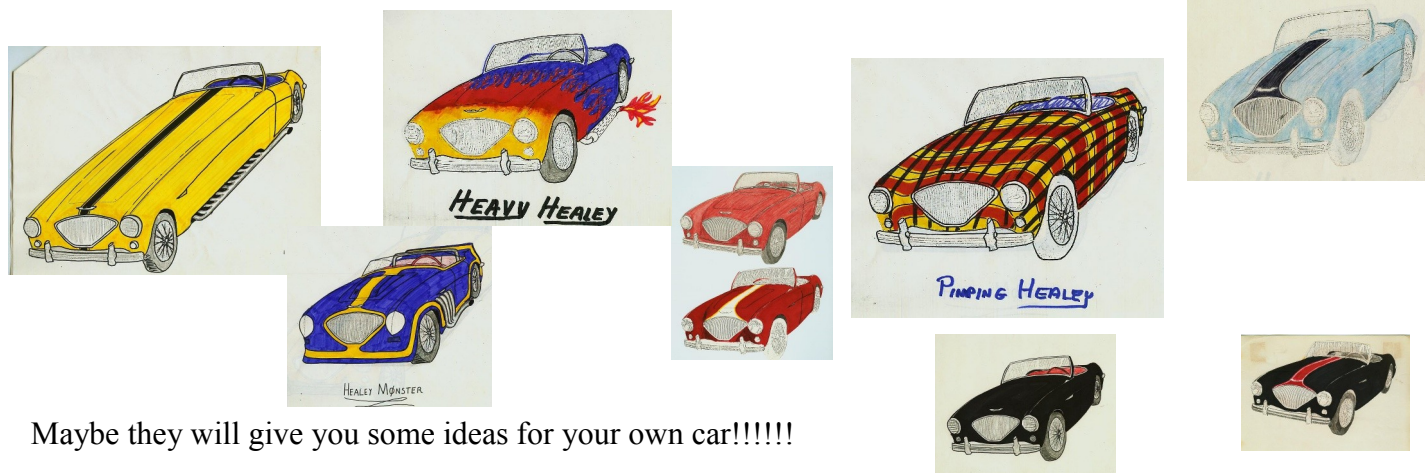
After the meeting, all others were already gone, Don, his wife Carole, and I were still chatting. I happen to face the window looking at their driveway, and it caught my eye when I saw a car stopping and a lady picking up the Tiger and stuffing Don's Tiger in their backseat. We shouted and we ran down the driveway, just in time. With many excuses the lady did understand that it was NOT a freebie toy to be taken. Her kids would have really liked Mom coming home with such a nice big Tiger. Here is Don coming back with his "Saved Tiger".



Robert Jaarsma (TEAE)

How do you choose what color to paint your car???

Duane Walzer sketched the following Healeys to help him decide what color to paint his car:



Maybe they will give you some ideas for your own car!!!!!!

BECKLEY FURNACE RIVER WALK

Saturday, August 15, 2009

East Canaan, CT

Meet at the East Canaan Congregational Church (corner of Rt. 44 and Lower Road in East Canaan, Ct. at 9:30am or at the furnace at 10:00am. There will be a talk at the church and then a walk to the Beckley Furnace for a tour of the area be experts. Hopefully Reggie Deiarms will be making a pot on her 1850 potters wheel and a blacksmith will be making nails. We'll go down river past the Forbes Dam and Raceway to the site of a bridge, blowing engine, grist mill and two blast furnaces. After a short talk, we'll continue to the Nod Winery to look around and maybe even have a hot dog. Want more? Continue on Rt.44 to Lime Rock past Ore Hill and take a left on Rt. 112 past the race course to south on Rt.7 thru Kent to the mining museum near the remains of the Kent Furnace.

Call Walt Michaels
(860) 673-3541