



New England News

*The Newsletter for members in the New England Region of the
Austin-Healey Club of America
NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME & Northern NJ*

From the editor

Carole Paye

Thank you to those of you who are still switching the email. Every week I get another member who asks to be switched. Life as an editor is getting easier so if there are any of you who would like to take over, just let me know. I would like to be able to do some traveling now that Don and I are retired and my time involved in taking care of my elderly mother is over. How do you "learn" to be retired or as a friend put it, "rewired". Any suggestions??

I have tried to include pictures in each of the newsletters. I can't print them all but if you have a couple of interest, please send them to me in a compressed version if you can. I can compress them but they send so much faster if you can compress them.

I am curious as to how many of you actually read every article that is included in the newsletter. I am sure that, for some, it is good bathroom material (to read that is), others take it along when attending a meet as they follow the directions to the meet and I am sure that some of you read it off the computer and never share it with a spouse. Please help by sending articles to print for everyone to read.

Would you like to have a new name for the New England News? How about making some suggestions.

Also please note that there are some improved directions for the Tech Session in New Hampshire. Spring will soon be here.....

From the President:

As some of you know, my daily driver is a Mini Cooper S and while it is usually a blast to drive, early spring is not its best season. I am not sure how many of you have had a opportunity to drive a short wheel based, stiffly sprung car on the roads of the northeast this time of year but the same characteristics that make it a blast on the twisty back roads of Vermont can leave you wishing for a kidney belt on some of our spring time roads. Careening from frost heave to frost heave does knock down the fun factor after a couple hours and this is with my higher profile snow tires still on the car after all it is only March. (Our friends from Texas ask what we do in Vermont during summer and I tell them if it falls on a weekend we have a picnic.)

I encountered these four hours of frost heaves traveling to and from our February business and planning meeting. For me, the meeting generated renewed enthusiasm for the driving season to come. At the January meeting we identified a few good events for this year's calendar; however the calendar of events looked a little like we were stuck in second gear with plenty of torque but no speed yet. After Saturday's meeting I feel we are in fourth gear at 3000 RPM and poised for that brief throttle lift and a flick of the toggle switch into overdrive. We currently have 20 events on the calendar with more to be added as information becomes available from the hosts. For those of you still deciding about a date for your event do not worry about having more than one event listed for the same date. A variety of events at the same time will give everyone more options. Some people may not be able to commit to a three day event but may like to join a group for a day tour.

We had an excellent presentation on the changes and improvements to the Lime Rock Park Vintage Fall Festival by Fred Jackson and Murray Smith to the extent where we will be forming a committee to organize activities at the track for the four day weekend event. The preliminary activities will include a car corral and parade laps on Saturday and an area for the club on the track for the car show on Sunday. Their goal is to fill the entire track circuit with show cars and car clubs for the Sunday car show. We will have a home base area in Paddock B like previous years. Stay tuned for additional details here in the newsletter as things develop.

We are also starting a contest to give our newsletter a name. This idea is so new I am not sure what the winning prize is yet. Stay tuned on this item.

Even though there might be a fresh foot of snow outside your door this morning, the driving season will soon be upon us so take a look at the calendar of events and RSVP as soon as you can to the events. Congratulations to the five lucky people who won the Lime Rock Park supplied door prizes at the meeting. I will trade a 2007 Conclave hat for one of the Monterey Historic or Rolex 24 hats.

Safe journey,

Bill Berg

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2009 Current Calendar of Events

Date	Event
March 21, 2008	Tech Session Sports Car Specialties Grafton NH Contact –Don Paye (413-625-6568)
May 15-17	Carlisle Import and Kit/Replica Carlisle PA
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 25	VT Mountain Peak Tour Meet in Brattleboro, VT Contact Bob Britton healeybj7@hotmail.com
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 Brattleboro, VT Bob Britton
August 6 - 9	Encounter 2009 Pocono PA
September 4-6	Lime Rock Park Denny Broughel
September 11-13	New England AHCA Fall Light House Tour Eastham-Cape Cod, MA Contact-Pete Williams (Prafe@aol.com)
September 18-20	British Invasion Stowe VT
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 Weathersfield, CT Deb Katz/Bev Sealand
December 5	Christmas Party Sturbridge, MA Betty Bender

--TECH SESSION--

Be sure to set aside Saturday, March 21, 2009

for what will be a great session at

SPORTS CAR SPECIALTIES

with Jon Thompson

Grafton, NH

Jon is a self proclaimed professional "Tin Knocker" and started doing business in 1985 as Sports Car Specialties. He specializes in professional restorative services on antique, classic and exotic automobiles. This includes custom metal shaping/panel beating services from a repair panel to a complete body. He also does fixture built/straightened chassis and panel work. Be sure to check out his web site at www.sportscarspecialties.com

Covered in his demonstration will be a brief discussion of the methods and theory of metal shaping (panel beating) including hand tools and their use as well as power tools and safety. He will also touch upon welding processes including joint configuration and hammering seams. These demonstrations will be explained as Jon completes repairs to an Austin Healey fender.

Coffee and pastries will be provided along with sandwiches and drinks at lunch time. It would be helpful if you notify Don Paye at dpaye@crocker.com or 413-625-6568 in advance so Jon can plan on quantities.

Saturday March 21 st 9:30 Am to 4:30 PM

Directions from South and East: I-93 North to I-89 North and get off at Exit 11, and take RT 11 East and then RT 4 West (not RT 4 "A") to Grafton then see BELOW

Directions from South and West: I-91 North to I-89 South, get off at Exit 17 and go East on RT 4 to Grafton then see BELOW

"BELOW":..... From RT 4 in Grafton Village turn left if you are coming from Boston area / right if coming from I-91 and Vermont onto Prescott Road. Proceed 0.1 mile and bear left onto Slab City Road and continue 1.8 miles to sign for Dean Road (if you are using GPS it will be Dean Hill Road). Jon will have signs directing you to 444 Dean Road. (603) 523-4885

" HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! IT WILL BE WORTH THE TRIP..."

For accommodations contact www.innatdanbury.com

PLEASE NOTIFY DON PAYE (413-625-6568) ASAP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. WE WOULD LIKE AN IDEA OF NUMBERS.

Here are a few pictures of recent New England meets!!



If you are dog tired at night....
try driving your Healey more!!!!
(This is Hud)



REGALIA SALES

Item	Color	Sale Price	Small	Med.	Large	XL	XXL
SWEAT	BLUE	\$13.50			2		4
"	GRAY	"			2	6	2
JACKET	RED	\$30.00				3	6
"	BLUE	"		2			5
"	GREEN	"					5
MEN'S SHORT SLEEVE	DENIM	\$12.50	11	14	2	7	2
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				3
"	WHITE	"					6
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				2
"	BRICK	"	10		4		
"	BLUE	"	8	5		3	8
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.

Region report highlights: Central Indiana club published a cookbook - \$10; Smoky Mountains had a gymkhana on a go kart track.

Officer reports:

Conclave (Jim Frakes):

2011 – looking for candidates; trying to target something further south since two of the last three Conclaves have been north.

2012 – looking for possible west coast candidate

Classification and Safety (Bill Naretta) - everything is now on the website

Promotions (Greg Lauser) - Caravan for Kids – at Conclave, \$16,001 had been raised; current total is now up to \$29,049.60; expecting additional funds by year end to bring total over \$30,000.

Treasurer (Bev Sealand) - \$163,077 income; \$140,849 in expenses; \$81,303 cash balance

Healey Marque (Reid Trummel):

Increased from 32 pages to 36, and now to 40 pages; going all color in January 2009.

Reid has no shortage of material, so need to be patient with publication of non-time sensitive submissions.

Anything that needs to get on the Events Calendar should be emailed to Scott Helms at activities@healeyclub.org. Events can be listed on the Manage section of the website.

Membership (Mike Schneider):

Membership is down by 132 to 3398, which is similar to decrease being experienced by other car clubs.

The new membership software will now enable renewal invoices to be emailed to everyone who has provided an email address (roughly 50% of the membership). The 2009 invoices will still go out as snail mail, but will give the member the opportunity to opt out of getting the email renewal for 2010. Hard copy invoices will still be provided to anyone who opts out of email invoicing. Continuing to offer electronic (credit card or PayPal) payment for dues.

Insurance (report submitted by Fred Dabney):

Insurance certificates – delegates need to help with requests:

Only request a certificate if the property owner requests one; need to submit request at least one month prior to the event.

The request form is on the website; contract for use of the property must be attached to request - need to ensure we're not assuming more liability than our policy covers.

The insurer is scrutinizing event publicity to ensure we're not advertising 'racing' events.

2009 premiums will be the same as 2008.

Concours (report submitted by Rich Chrysler) - Steering committee is looking to issue the guidelines on CD this winter (\$20/US, \$25/Canada/Mexico, \$27/other countries) – contact Mike Ospik

Future 50 (Ben Moore):

To date, most activities and materials have been targeting the next-next generations – going to turn focus to next generation. Challenging the local clubs, through the delegates, as individuals or groups to attend non-Healey events to get Healeys in front of audiences who may not have seen a Healey before.

Great Healey stuff out on YouTubeHealeys.

DMH Memorial (report submitted by Baird Foster) - Balance \$10,495:

Recent recipient selected for £250 scholarship

Reminded delegates that the DMH Fund is a good way to remember a club member or loved one who has passed away.

Driving Awards (Bonnie Ayer) - Rejuvenating the program with new shirts and plaques. Will need to increase prices because cost of obtaining items in US is higher than what Roger was able to get in Quebec.

Website (Cole Getzler):

In the process of converting to a new hosting server.

Adding new section for charitable activities, regalia, online membership (joining and renewing).

Need to take advantage of the Manage section of the website.

Piloting with Triad on hosting local websites through the national website. Local clubs could update content within the base framework, and save the cost of their current website providers.

Conclave 2008 (Mike Williams) – San Diego, CA.:

189 registrations; 415 attendees; 157 cars, 1 boat

Used a binder instead of an event program; more flexible to add/update content; advertisers could send 8 ½ x 11 color ads

\$8,000 cash sponsorships plus donated goods

\$9,400 profit

Grille badges for Sprite 50th available - \$20 plus \$5 S&H; ordering Conclave grille badges - \$20 plus \$5 S&H

Conclave 2009 (Bob Yule) – Kingston, Ontario, Canada - 6/21 – 6/25:

Recommend using credit card to take advantage of current exchange rate

No charge for parking; trailer parking is close by

Special guests – Ann Wisdom & Peter Riley, and Stuart Turner

Regalia is online to be pre-ordered; not expecting to have much, if any, at the meet

Need meet registration before hotel registration; 255 rooms at the hotel - \$100 - \$130

Registration form is online at www.conclave09.com (also in January issue of the Healey Marque)

Conclave 2010 (Bob Brown) – Galena, Illinois – 7/11 – 7/15:

Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa- northwest corner of Illinois; 6,000 acres

One, two and three bedroom villas/condos

35th anniversary of AHCA

By-laws:

Second reading of cleanup today – passed unanimously

First reading of content revisions today – several additional discrepancies identified; tabled until additional review can be completed.

Breakout sessions:

Conclave Event Fees (complaints raised regarding fees for gymkhana, which is an event used in the calculation of the DMH Award): Voted to require that the following mandatory events are included in the base Conclave registration fee: Gymkhana, funkhana, popular car show, photo/model/handicraft and rallye.

Delegate Meetings Housing Reimbursements - recommendation – add \$1,500 to the Delegates Meeting 2009 budget to enable all attendees to stay in the host hotel. Requirement to share a room with another delegate/officer remains.

New Business:

2009 budget approved – no dues increase (last increase was 1999)

Heritage Trust (England) – nominal fee will provide basic car info; asking clubs to appoint one point person; there will be no charge for inquiries handled through the club representative; Bob Gilleland will contact Heritage Trust

Regional events need to be posted in The Marque when the dates have been set; also need to notify Cole to post them on the website; due to limited space in

The Marque, any AHCA hosted/sponsored event should take precedence over non-AHCA events.

Nominating Committee (John May):

Honorary Memberships - Bill Naretta (retiring AHCA VP), Edie Lowery (retiring AHCA Secretary), Mike Williams (2008 Conclave Chairman), Rick

Moses (50th Anniversary Sprite Jubilee), Reid Trummel (50th Anniversary Sprite Jubilee)

Delegates on the Nominating Committee – Jim Richmond re-elected for 2 more years; Bob Yule has one more year on his term

Officer elections- President – Carl Brown, Secretary – Jo Switzer, Treasurer – Bev Sealand, VP Conclave – Jim Frakes, VP Promotions – Greg Lauser, VP

Classification & Safety – Don Klein, VP Club Support – Gary Brierton

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 website 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



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!!!!

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!