



The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XVI No. 11

November 2005



Looking out over Wabasha on the Fall Color Tour !

November Events

Wednesday November 2 – Pie with the President

Saturday November 19 – Annual Pizza Party

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-- Through the Windscreen -- President's Perspective

By Greg Lauser

Nancy and I took our final Healey ride of the season last Sunday scouting the progress of leaf changes along the Minnesota side of the Mississippi. It was a beautiful sunny day and the cool nights since then have burnished leaves to peak patinas for the Oct. 15 fall color tour planned by Dick Mathews. Unfortunately, we'll miss the tour due to family commitments out of town.

In addition, my gearbox has been acting up and virtually stopped functioning as I pulled into our garage as we returned from that Sunday outing. Oh well, another item to add to my BJ8 winter-reconditioning program. I really can't complain after driving more than 7,000 miles in it this season.

And what a season it's been for MAHC. In addition to a number of great regularly scheduled events we hosted another successful Rendezvous that included helping raise \$2,400 for a Grand Rapids charity during Tom Politiski's remarkable downtown car show. The Johnks organized and hosted the internationally renowned Aussie Challenge. Tom Hazen provided us with new driving thrills at Rendezvous, the Healey Hillclimb and the Dog Days Tour. Plus, we initiated a highly visible Adopt-A-Highway project on scenic U.S. 61 south of Red Wing.

None of it could have happened without the involvement of a great number of MAHC folks. It's been an honor and privilege to serve as president this year, largely because those who've planned events are more experienced at doing so than I am and that made my job easier. I thank all who've been so supportive of club activities throughout the year. You've transformed several events into intermarque gatherings that have added further luster to MAHC's reputation among sports car clubs.

As we head into white weather, don't forget to join us for the annual meeting and pizza party Nov. 19. In addition to electing officers, we'll present some proposed bylaws changes and an update on board decisions about local dues. Thanks to new member Don Rould those attending will have the opportunity to bid on some rare auction items, including a Healey 100 jigsaw puzzle, a color brochure/spec sheet for the LeMans modified 100, two ads for the b-movie "Speed Crazy" featuring racy women and a hot 100 and a record album jacket with a Healey. All auction proceeds will benefit the MAHC balance sheet.

Don't forget the planning meeting in early December, so we can all support Mike Martin and other club officers in continuing to stage outstanding events in 2006. That meeting will be an excellent time for members who haven't grabbed the reins of an event this year to step forward and give a breather to those who have nurtured the club so well throughout its history. See you at November Pie, if not before.

THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST, is published 12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles which 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 is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America.



Presidential Pie

Date: Wednesday November 2nd

Time: 7:00 p.m. (or before)

Place: Fort Snelling Officers Club

This location is on Hwy. 5 (east of I-494) on the southeast side of the Mpls./St. Paul Intl. Airport. Exit at the Post Road ramp, turn south (east) towards the river and proceed on to the road heading for the park, take the first left and wind around to the Officers Club building.

Come and enjoy refreshments and/or food with the friendly club members, catch up on news & events, and discuss cars & restorations.

Sunday Natter & Noggins

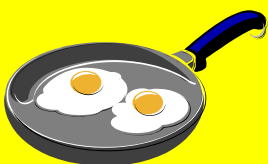
Once again a replacement for the Sunday night gatherings at Sherlock's Home has been arranged. The location is **Kip's Pub**, which is located in the hotel at the northwest corner of **I394 and Hwy. 169**. This is a real Irish pub and is getting good attendance! Starting time is **3:00 P.M.** - ?



Breakfast at the Peg

This casual event every Saturday morning about 8:30 continues to be very popular! Great food, reasonable prices, & friendly LBC car enthusiasts make it a great place to keep in touch. The location again is:

The Square Peg Diner
2021 East Hennepin Ave. Mpls.



PIZZA PARTY 2005 !!

Date: Saturday November 19th

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Country Inn Suites/Green Mill Pizza
6003 Hudson Road
Woodbury, MN
Phone: 651-739-7300

Cost: \$12.50 per person

Includes: Pizza, Salad, Soft Drinks

Bring: Pictures of 2005 Events

Come join the annual celebration of the past year. We will have the same separate room as last year for our event. This is a great time to socialize and look at pictures. After dinner, the annual business meeting will be held for hearing reports from officers and chairpersons. The election of officers for 2006 will then be held. There will even be an auction of some memorabilia! It'll be a good time!

Please RSVP to Barb Ronning at 612-722-8397 or email to gtronning@aol.com.





Dog Days of Summer Tour

Editor

Close to 50 sportscars with drivers and navigators (usually) met at the Pickle Factory Restaurant on the shore of the Mississippi River in Pepin, Wisconsin about 11:00 am for another Tom Hazen windy hilly tour! It was a warm sunny day (high 70's), and the tops were down. We had lunch and assembled at 1:00 pm for the driver's meeting.

Tom gave directions and passed out route maps. Safety, as usual, was a primary message to the drivers. Cars were sent out with the most "enthusiastic" drivers going first and the "happy speed" drivers following. We were off and running.

The leaves were still mostly green yet, but the winding hilly roads were beautiful! People had the choice of taking the "long route" or taking the "short cut" with perhaps stopping to visit a car museum along the way.

We ended up near Fountain City at the Hansen's Hold-up Bar & Grill. The proprietor had been made aware that it would be cordial of him to have a supply of Guinness on hand – which he did!

People enjoyed refreshments while taking in the gorgeous scenery. Hansen's was located at the top of a hill, so the view of the valley was magnificent. Some people dined there while others ate on the way back home. It was another fun tour. Thanks Tom !!



Pictures – from the top: Pres. Greg and Editor doing lunch at the Pickle Factory, Drivers and Navigators listening to Tom's instructions, the Scenery, Hansen's Hold-Up Bar & Grill.

Fall Color Tour

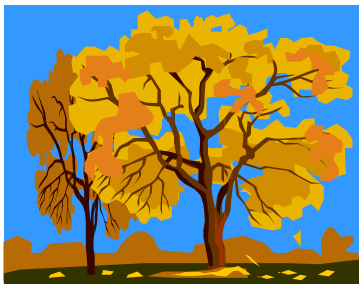
Editor

Sunny and warm was the fare again for the Fall Color Tour. We could not ask for more beautiful conditions. As we drove south to the starting point at Red Wing, the trees were still quite green. Farther south later in the day, the leaves had much more color and looked outstanding!

We met in back of the St. James Hotel in the riverside park at 11:00 am. People kept coming, so departure was close to noon. After touring on some of the main roads for a while, we got on to some nice back roads. Every once in a while, a small town would pop up that we had never seen before. You had to look quickly, however!

Eventually all the cars stopped at a very scenic high spot overlooking the valley and city of Wabasha (see cover). The cars added their own lively colors to the countryside. Dick Mathews had worked with Al Webster of the Minnesota MG Group planning the event, so there was a varied assortment of cars including MGA, MGB, MG Midget, AH3000, AH100, AH Sprite, AC Bristol, Morgan, Triumph, Alfa Romeo, Mazda, and Porsche.

Next we tumbled down into Wabasha on the Mississippi River and found Slippery's Restaurant. It was a great spot – literally on the river – so we could watch the boats going by. The restaurant had some nice refreshments on tap and had prepared a delicious buffet for us. To top things off, they served a crème broulet cheese cake for dessert. Kudos to Dick and Al for a very enjoyable event!!



Your Vote Needed At Annual Meeting

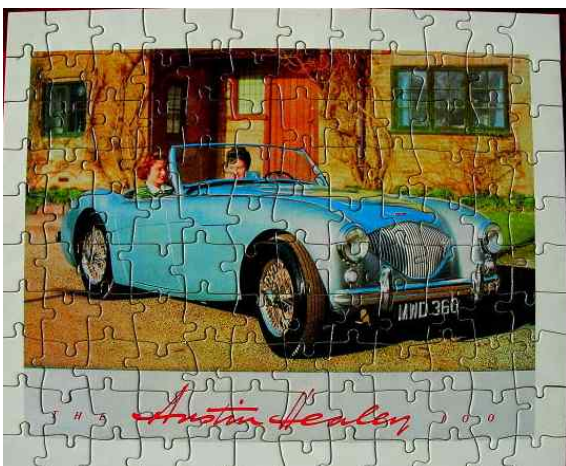
All members are urged to attend the MAHC annual meeting Nov. 19 at the Country Inn & Suites/Davanni's Pizza at I-94 and Century Ave. (south and east of 3M headquarters).

Beside the normal Healey camaraderie and some good grub, several important matters will be submitted for member present votes. Your vote is needed on the following:

- § Bylaws changes recommended by the Board of Directors;
- § A local dues increase of \$5 for MAHC recommended by the board, bringing annual dues to \$20 (the first dues increase since at least 1991);
- § A plan to encourage members to receive *The Healey Enthusiast* newsletter electronically;
- § Creation of a new honorary and lifetime membership categories of membership;
- § First honoree recommended for lifetime membership;
- § Election of 2006 club officers, and
- § Election of new members to the Board of Directors.

In addition to registering your opinion on these important matters, you'll also be able to bid on several auction items donated by new member Don Rould and former member Dick Brill. All auction proceeds will be used to improve the operating fund balance of the club.

See you Saturday, Nov. 19 at **6:30 pm.**



This Healey 100 jigsaw puzzle is among the memorabilia offered as part of the MAHC annual meeting auction.

Attention Book Lovers !

Most of us have read the novel tales in "Motor Oil For A Car Guy's Soul" by resident author Kevin Clemens. We have just received the following announcement:

Phil Vanner and I have an agreement that I will do a book signing breakfast at the Square Peg Restaurant on Saturday November 19th from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. This will be the first chance to buy the new novel "Eat Free or Die" and get it signed by me (the author). KC

Mark that date on your calendar!!



InterMarqueMonthly

What is it? The newsletter for all vintage foreign car enthusiasts in the Upper Midwest (Minnesota, Manitoba, Wisconsin, Iowa, the Dakotas). Events calendar, shows, races, rallies, classifieds, club listing, and much more.

Does it cost a lot? No. Email subscriptions are free. There is one mailing of about 2mb on the 15th of the month. We are currently evaluating whether a print version makes sense and what its cost would have to be. Let us know if you're interested.

Is it in competition with my car club? No. There is no substitute for your marque club. On the other hand, there's no substitute for IMM if there's no local club for your car or if you're interested in the whole vintage foreign car scene.

How do I subscribe? Send an email to andylindberg@earthlink.net. Include the secret message, "Subscribe me to the Monthly."

Tech Tip

by Doctor Ernie

Subject: Chapter 2, Motor Oils

Everybody knows that oils come in different thicknesses or “weights”. This weight designation is printed on every oil container. Some 50 years ago things were considerably more simple, I.E. 10, 20, and 30 weights. To graphically try to describe these ratings take a plain sheet of paper and fold it top to bottom in half. Now without rotating or unfolding the paper fold it one more time top to bottom. Now if my instructions were simple enough, when you unfold the paper you should have three horizontal creases separating four equal areas on the paper. Now mark the top section with 40, the next one down 30, then 20, and finally the bottom section with 10.

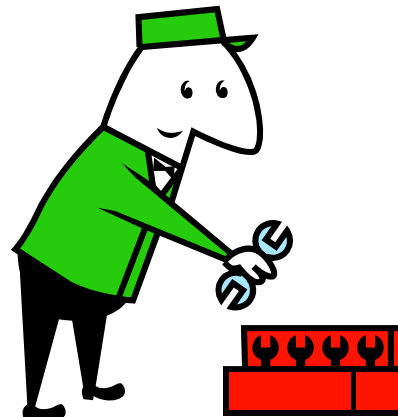
A simplified description of how oil weights are determined starts by taking an exact volume of oil, then this volume of oil is allowed to drain out of the container through a standardized orifice. The amount of time required to drain this quantity of oil through this measured orifice is what determines that oil’s weight. For the purpose of keeping this understandable we’ll just use round figures of 100 seconds. Now using the piece of paper that you folded mark 300 seconds on the first crease from the top, 200 seconds on the center crease, and 100 seconds on the bottom crease. Now, if the oil all drains through the orifice in 100 seconds or less it would be called 10 weight. If it takes between 100 and 200 seconds it would be 20 weight. Between 200 and 300 seconds, 30 weight, and on up the scale through 40 and 50 weights. But as you can see, there is a considerable variation in each weight range. For instance Brand X oil could drain out in 295 seconds, and Brand Y oil could drain out in 205 seconds. So it’s obvious there is a considerable difference in thickness, yet both would be called 30-weight. By the way, an oil weight followed by a W, I.E. 30W, means it’s more suitable for colder weather, and it would probably have a drain down number towards the lower end of the 30 weight range. Conversely, a racing 30 weight oil would probably be towards the top of the range.

Let’s go back to that 50 years ago period. About that time multi-weight oils started to become more common and accepted. A common multi-weight oil of that time was 10W30. That oil was basically just a very stable 20 weight oil that, with proper refining and special additives, could reach both the 10 weight and 30 weight specifications. But these new types of oils weren’t totally accepted by everyone back then, and I believe rightfully so. Early 10W30 oils probably did a poor job doing what 10 weight was supposed to do, and a poor job doing what you’d expect a 30 weight to do also. This could actually be observed by just watching the oil pressure gauge. Worse yet, this broadening of the weight range was accomplished at a sacrifice to the actual lubricating quality of the oil. But time marched on, and multi weight oils have improved tremendously - as well as their lubricating and cleaning qualities. In fact some oils now span 5 weight ranges (10W50), but I suspect they barely reach the 10 and 50 weight ranges.

So, what does all this information mean to you? Actually two things. First, if you’re asking about your newer car with variable valve timing and computer controlled everything, follow the book. Most likely it will suggest 5W30, but some very high performance cars may even insist on a full synthetic 10W30.

If you’re asking, what oil to use for your older classic or muscle car, I’d suggest using 10W40 or even 20W50 during full blown summer conditions. (Note: Some model Ford products never recommended 10W40. Sorry I don’t know the reason for that.) With these heavier oils, allow extra time for oil warm up before getting very aggressive with the loud pedal to avoid exploded oil filters, twisted off oil pump drives, or any number of other unpleasant engine problems.

P.S. Oil generally takes twice as long to reach normal operating temperatures as the coolant does. It may never reach normal in winter if the car is equipped with a non-thermostated oil cooler.



Annual MAHC Dues

The MAHC Board of Directors has voted to bring the local club dues more in line with our expenditures and costs of doing business.

Local club dues will increase by five dollars to \$20.00 per year beginning with the 2006 membership year. National Dues (*as of the date of this writing) remain at \$40.00 per year, which brings local AND national dues to \$60.00 for renewing members.

You may remit your dues at the annual November Pizza Party scheduled for November 19th at the Green Mill in Woodbury (see notice Page 3 of this issue), or you may wait to renew once you receive your membership renewal form from the National Club. Please always renew all memberships through me, your local club membership director, rather than mailing them to National directly; as this often results in a delay, which could jeopardize your receipt of the local newsletter. Lastly, please remember to renew prior to the end of February to avoid the \$5.00 late fee.

Thank you. Curt

Curtis L. Carlson
 MAHC Membership Director/Newsletter Publisher
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 Minneapolis, MN 55406-0844
spritemann@hotmail.com www.mnhealey.com

Membership / Renewal Form

- Minnesota A-H Club** New Renewal \$20.00
- Austin-Healey Club of America** New Renewal \$40.00
- BOTH CLUBS** \$60.00

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____

E-mail address: _____ Receive Newsletter via email? Yes No

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

Make checks payable to: Minnesota Austin Healey Club. Send to Curt Carlson (see page 2 for address)

Events Schedule

- Nov. 2 **** **Pie with the President** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 3 for details.
- Nov. 13**** **Tea & Tech Session** - This event has been cancelled.
- Nov. 19 **** **Pizza Party** – (Sat.) Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Country Inn Suites/Green Mill Pizza at 6003 Hudson Road in Woodbury. Cost is \$12.50 per person. Includes Pizza, Salad, & Soft Drinks. The annual business meeting and election of officers will occur during the evening. Please RSVP to Ronnings at 612-722-8397 or gtronning@aol.com . See page 3.
- Dec. 3 **** **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat.) Meet at 8:30 am at the Machine Shed Restaurant in Lake Elmo, MN Making the schedule of events for 2006 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Mike Martin be presiding.
- Dec. 7**** **Pie with the President** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m.
**** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity**

Presidential Pie !

Editor

The October Pie meeting assembled early this month. The Board of Directors had called a meeting prior to the regular festivities. There were some issues that needed to be discussed before the Annual Meeting in November.

Food and beverages were served when members arrived with much conversation mixed in. Pres. Greg made announcements on upcoming events. Tom Hazen gave a re-cap on the Dog Days of Summer Tour, and Dick Mathews talked about the Fall Color Tour to Wabasha he is planning for October 15th.

Dick Mathews and Curt Carlson reported on their glorious trip driving the Colorado Grand. They took part in this annual "invitation only" event driving Dick's AC Bristol along with about 75 other very pristine highly collectable autos! Top down was the message for the tour (even through snow capped mountains), and no car washing was allowed. Their description ended with Curt doing a slide show on his computer. What an experience!

The night's attendees included Steve Rixen, Dave Lee, Geoff Rossi, Dale Martin, Jack Stein, Jim Kriz, Dick Mathews, Curt Carlson, Scott McQueen, Dan Wolters, Tom Hazen, Greg Lauser, Gary & Barb Ronning, Andy Lindberg, Mike Manser, Tom Moerke, Chuck Norton, Brian McCullough, Larry Nimmerfroh, & Rich Stadther.

Note: Sorry if we included/excluded names in error. Attendance list is somewhere.....

NEW MEMBERS !

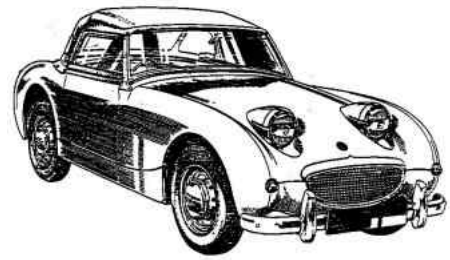
JD & Barb Strand joined the MAHC recently. They live in Minneapolis and own an AN-5 Bugeye Sprite.

Joel Conner of Minneapolis also joined, and he does not have a Healey – YET!

Don Rould is a recent member and came to Pie last month with some memorabilia to donate for an auction at the November Pizza Party. Thank you, Don!

John Rued and **Ann Guy** are long distance members from Bellevue, NE. John is restoring his 100-4 and his BT7 is close on it's heels. John joined us for our fall colour tour!

Minnesota Austin Healey Club
Gary Ronning, Editor
3624 - 46th Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55406



First Class Postage



MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE: Four painted wire wheels – reasonable! Call Jim Kriz at 612-374-2666 or email to: jkriz1@mn.rr.com

FOR SALE: – all or parts - Healey 100-4 BN1 Sat outside for 6 years with no top. Many parts are still serviceable. Engine, Transmission, Rear Axle, Differential, Springs and Suspension, Fenders, Windshield Frame, Cockpit Trim Surrounds, etc. Call Curt Carlson at 612-721-8667 or spritemann@hotmail.com. (9/05)

FOR SALE: Last chance to buy Australian-US Healey Challenge (AUHC) Regalia! There is some stock left on the following items: Folding Chairs, Sweatshirts, Lapel Pins, Can Coolers. Sold on a first come- first serve basis. Email Carol Johnk at icjeh racing@usfamily.net. (9/05)

FOR SALE: Parting out a 1962 Austin Healey Sprite many, many parts available including 948 engines, front fenders, doors, side curtains, transmission, much more. Call with your needs Jack Bacon (home) 763-479-6214, (cell) 763-222-9163(9/05)

FOR SALE: 1967 MGB GT Mk I 58,000 old english white, black interior/white piping, wire wheels, very good condition. New tires, brakes, water pump and much more. Also includes many extra parts. Call Jack Bacon (home) 763-479-6214 (cell) 763-222-9163 (9/05)

FOR SALE: In-Car Race Action of the 2005 Aussie-U.S. Challenge Series as seen from the cockpit of my racecar. All five venues - over an hour of race footage on this DVD. Special price for MAHC members: \$15.00 (regular price \$20.00). Send your personal check to Dan Powell @ 6005 Chowen Ave S., Edina, MN 55410 and I'll post a copy to you. (10/05)

FOR SALE: Approximately 1500 automotive magazines from the late 60's to current. Primarily **premium** American (Vintage Motorsport, Car Collector, SIA, R&T, etc.), and **premium** British titles (Thoroughbred & Classic Cars, Classic & Sports Car, and MotorSport). Save me from myself! Best offer. George Arthur 651-436-3227 (10/05)

FOR SALE: 1973 Triumph GT6 MK III rolling chassis. Owned since 1989, put many miles on it. Recently removed engine, transmission, and exhaust, which are not included. Complete interior, gauges, radio, glass, new tires, & trim are included. \$1,000. Call Scott McQueen at 612-623-4938 eves & weekends or email smcqueen@mn.rr.com. (10/05)

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 the ad can be removed.