



# The Healey Enthusiast

Volume XVIII No. 3

March 2007

## Event Date Changes Since February Newsletter Issue

See calendar pages 6 and 7 for details

Tech Session Time On March 17 Changed From 10:00am to 9:30am  
Donnybrooke Vintage Revival on May 25, to be rescheduled to Fall 2007  
Amery Speed Event 2007-1 on June 2, rescheduled to June 23rd  
Amery Speed Event 2007-2 is added to schedule on August 25<sup>th</sup>



**Wine and Cheese Party at the Mathews Home**

## March Events

**Wednesday March 7 – PIE Meeting**

**Wednesday March 7 – Grand Prix Hot Wheels Racing after PIE Meeting**

**Saturday March 17 – Tech Session at Precision Restoration 9:30am Long Lake**

**Saturday March 24 – Intermarque Go Kart Challenge**

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## Presidential Polemical Exhortations



**By Mike Manser**

Hello Healeyphiles...

"When he has a new car or when he has a new wife." As I write this I am putting off preparations for my impending trip to Japan. This will be my fourth or fifth trip there (maybe sixth...not sure anymore) and not my last by any means. But despite my semi-annual visits I still enjoy the trips very much. It is the preparations for these trips that I dislike. There is always the packing that stinks, but because I do "carry-on only" this becomes more of an exercise in deciding the shirt and pants in which I want to live for two weeks straight. More clothes (more changes of clothes) = less stink. It is just a matter of how much stink I want to tolerate and how much I want my project sponsors to tolerate. Tough call. In all honesty I could pack for this trip in about 5 minutes...passport, yes...plane ticket, yes...credit card, yes...computer, yes...wearing clothes, yes...ready to roll, everything else can be purchased after I land. The real preparations that are challenging include paying all the bills in advance, making arrangements for the fur machines (cats), food for fur machines, the 100 or so things that need to be done at work, etc. I spend two days at least clearing these preparations from my list. I don't write all this to take up space, but instead to emphasize the fact that we learn many things from many unusual places. I have learned from working on Healeys (and all cars) that the preparation stage is critical for all other stages to be productive and enjoyable. For example, those that paint cars know that preparations before painting in the form of body work, filler, sanding, filler, sanding, filler, sanding is critical to the final product. No amount of paint can cover poor preparation, but great preparation can make a mediocre paint job look a little better. Preparation also makes reconstructing engines and other mechanicals much easier. Parts that are organized well, labeled, and in good condition are essential to a good reconstruction. So, in closing, I will look forward to these preparations as much as possible knowing that they will make the trip more productive and enjoyable and be happy in the thought that my Healey has taught me a lesson in life. Now I do wonder what other lessons our Healeys teach us. "When does a man open the door of the car for his wife?"

### 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

Cover Photo by Wayne Soderbeck

## PIE (President's Informal Evening)

**Date:** Wednesday March 7th

**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.

## PIE REPORT

By Tom Moerke

### PIE on 2-7-07 was lots of fun

The Afton Hillclimb safety committee met prior to PIE. Steve Rixen, Aaron Courteau, and Wayne Soderbeck gave lots of insightful advice to Tom Hazen. In the future there will be design changes in both the autocross at the bottom of the hill and the hill itself which hopefully will result in slower safer speeds while maybe even enhancing the excitement for the drivers and the spectators.

In attendance at PIE were Larry Nimmerfroh, Curt Carlson, Jack Stein, Tom Hazen, Jeff Lumbard, Dan Powell, Jeff Johnk, Tom Wolters, Dan Wolters, Steve Rixen, Wayne Soderbeck, Jay Fowler, Andy Lindberg, Mike Jekot, Dick Matthews, Herb Miller, Aaron Courteau, Mike Manser, Darrel Pearson, Tom Moerke, Dave Lee, Bob Elliott, John Snyder, Scott McQueen, Dwight McCullough, Brian McCullough.

Mike Jekot told the group about the Automotive Fine Arts Show which will be held at the Hopkins Art Center in July of 2008. At least 50 artists will display their automotive art during the entire month. The artists will be from all over the world.

Curt Carlson said the beer making and bottling and beer drinking had gone well.

Dick Mathews well attended, always fun, wine and cheese party will be held on Feb. 10th.

Tom Hazen mentioned two probable dates for the Amery Speed Run; June 23rd and August 25th. This is great news as Amery was very well attended in 2006, its first year.

Jeff Lumbard showed the group his new nifty intake manifold which he has high hopes for.

And we learned Steve Rixen was headed for Hawaii to hobnob with John Prinzi.

**A FOOTNOTE** The Wine and Cheese Party at Dick Mathews was great. A large turnout, good food and wine, and we could watch the cross country skiers in the park behind Dick's beautiful home. Thank you, Dick, for hosting this annual event

Next PIE is March 7, 2007 at Fort Snelling

## 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. **Meet in the room added on just for us!!**

The location again is:

**The Square Peg Diner  
2021 East Hennepin Ave. Mpls.**





# Beer Brewing Re-Cap

Curt Carlson

**F**ifteen MAHC club members participated in the first ever MAHC beer brewing in January and February the Vine Park 'do it yourself' Brewery in St. Paul. Of course, Vine Park is small, so we were limited 15 persons. The event was well received and well attended, and maybe we'll do it again next year too. It makes for a unique winter event.



at  
to



We got together on January 20<sup>th</sup> for about 2 hours to brew and on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to bottle the results. Of course, you can't brew or bottle without sampling some too! We had a great time. All of the participants heartily agreed, and the results are very tasty.

Attendees included: Rod Richert, Pete Roth, Curt Carlson, John Snyder, Mike Martin, Phillip Galberth, Steve Rixen, Mike and Stacey Manser, Jack Stein, Jim Kriz, John Kriz, Don Heath, Brian Duoos, and Tim Hood.

We brewed a Stout, a Lager, and an Ale. During the brewing in



January, we chose names for our brews. MANY great choices were submitted, but the winners were: Bugeyed Stout, Longbridge Lager, and Abingdon Ale. Stacey and Mike Manser came up with the labels and the participants came home with 11 22 ounce bottles each of their choice of beers.



## VP Report

by Tom Moerke

DAKOTA EXPEDITION The very sound of it is exciting. The group will depart from the Square Peg after breakfast on April 28th and go to Sioux Falls, SD the first night. On to Wall, SD the second night, then use Hill City, SD as a base camp for day trips to Deadwood, Lead, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Custer State Park, and anywhere else they want to go. Coming back this plucky group will stay in Pierre, the capital of SD. Sometime prior to departure a list of suggested motels with phone no's and prices will be sent to all participants. You must remember this expedition is not for the faint of heart or the weak of will. Only those who feel their car can keep up with a Citroen 2CV should plan on going. While not the Colorado Grand, the scenery will be similar and just think of this: Wall Drug, The Badlands, Pipestone National Monument, Camp Release at Montevideo, The Corn Palace at Mitchell, and the wide Missouri at Chamberlain where Lewis and Clark went on "their" expedition. oh boy I can hardly wait

# Events Schedule 2007

- March 7 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. at The Fort Snelling Officers Club located on Hwy. 5 at Post Road - just across the road from the entrance to the Mpls./St. Paul Int'l. Airport. There is always an enjoyable group of members to discuss a variety of topics.
- March 7 \*\*** **Grand Prix Miniature Hot Wheels Races**, after PIE Meeting at Ft. Snelling, see page 8
- March 17 \*\*** **Tech Session** – (Sat.) Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Precision Restoration In Long Lake, MN (west of Wayzata on Hwy 12) For more details, see page 4. Steve Rixen is coordinating.
- March 24** **Intermarque Go Kart Challenge** –(Sat) From 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the race track in Burnsville. This is the sixth year for the Jaguar Club sponsored event. Awards lunch will follow. Call Dave Meek at 952-942-5001 or [davemeek@mn.rr.com](mailto:davemeek@mn.rr.com) for more info.
- April 4 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- April 28 \*\*** **Clean-up/Spring Awakening Tour** - (Sat) Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Veteran's Hwy. Roadside Park at milepost 80 on US Hwy. 61 – just above Lake City, MN for the Spring Adopt-A-Highway clean up. There will be a tour afterwards to an Austin car collector's home nearby in Wisconsin. Arrangements are being made by Greg Lauser.
- April 28 – May 3** **Andy Lindberg Expedition To The Black Hills** Details page 9.
- May 2 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice
- May 6 \*\*** **Sandy Rixen Memorial Tea** - (Sun.) There will be a Memorial Tea honoring the life of Sandy Rixen. Details will be forthcoming.
- May 12** **MMGG Spring Tour** (Sat.) Meet at 8:00 a.m. Square Peg – details to follow
- May 17 - 20** **MOTRAH 007** – (Fri-Sat) This will be the weekend for the Spring races at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. Morgan, Triumph, and Austin Healey will be the featured marques. Many events are being planned for the attendees this weekend. For more info, email Jeff Johnk at [jeffj@centuryrefining.com](mailto:jeffj@centuryrefining.com)
- May 20** **Intermarque Banquet & Car Show** – (Sun.) The InterMarque Council will again sponsor the Spring banquet. It will take place at the Radisson Conference Center in Golden Valley. Car show 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Banquet noon to 2:00 pm. See insert page 10.
- June 2 \*\*** **Hill Climb VI** (Sat.) Afton Alps – See page 11.
- June 6 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- June 10** **Classic Car Club of America/Mercedes Benz Concours Event** – (Sun.) Very nice showing of Classic Cars at Rice Park in downtown St. Paul. Details later.
- June 14 - 17** **Rendezvous 2007** - This will be the 17<sup>th</sup> year for the annual Lake Superior Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The location this year will be at Sugar Lake Lodge in Grand Rapids, MN. The MN Jaguars will be hosting. Get your reservations in early! Form included in February newsletter.
- June 22 - 24** **Back to the 50's Car Show** – The annual supersize car show at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. If you want to see tons of fancy cars, here's the place!
- June 23 \*\*** **Amery Airport Event 2007 #1** – (Sat.) – This event was so well received last year that Tom Hazen and Tom Moerke will be having "two more runs at it" in 2007! Details later.
- June 24 - 29** **AHCA Conclave 2007** – The Green Mountain International Conclave. The event will be in Burlington, Vermont this year. Looks like a beauty! Reserve early. For more information, call Greg Lauser at 715-262-9813 or email to [glouser@presenter.com](mailto:glouser@presenter.com).

\*\* - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

## Events Schedule 2007

- July 7** **Chetek Car Show** (Sat.) at Airport, Chetek, Wisconsin mmgg.org
- July 11 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- July 14 \*\*** **Gymkhana** – (Sat) Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Brown & Bigelow parking lot at 345 Plato Blvd. in St. Paul. Scott McQueen will be making the arrangements.
- July 19–22** **The Kohler International Challenge** (formerly called the BRIC) This is the big annual vintage car race event held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. For details, call Jeff Johnk, Dan Powell, or Jeff Lumbard.
- July 27 \*\*** **Drive-In Movie Nite** – (Fri) Andy Lindberg is bringing us back to the 50's with this event in Woodbury. Plan to come early and tailgate. Details later.
- August 1 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- August 11** **ALL BRITISH Swap Meet/Car Show** – (Sat) 10:00 a.m. This event has been held at the Ellingson Car Museum on Hwy. 94 near Rogers, MN for the past several years. It's a great place to buy or sell parts and show your car. Sponsored by the MN MG Group.
- August 18 \*\*** **Lauser / Stine Tour & Picnic** – (Sat) There will be a short Tour ending up at Carl & Betty Stine's for a Picnic at their very interesting farm in Beldenville, WI. Details later.
- August 25 \*\*** **Amery Airport Event 2007 #2** – (Sat.) – This event was so well received last year that Tom Hazen and Tom Moerke will be having “two more runs at it” in 2007 ! Details later.
- September 5 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- September 8** **Wheels 'n Wings** – (Sat) 8:00 a.m. Always a lot of cars and a lot of books. Airplanes, a train ride, hot dogs, and friendly people make it an enjoyable day in Osceola, WI.
- September 14-16** **Fall Vintage Race Festival** - Held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. A great opportunity to see vintage racing up close. Call Jeff J., Dan P., or Jeff L. for details.
- September 30 \*\*** **Wine Tour** – (Sun) – We will venture to one of the local Taylors Falls wineries to taste some of the recent vintages. Should be delightful! Details later. Wayne Soderbeck is coordinating
- October 3 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- October 6 \*\*** **Adopt A Highway Clean-up** (Sat.) The second of our two clean-ups for the year is to take place on this date. Details later.
- October 7** **Fall Color Tour**- (Sun.) The final drive of the year to enjoy the Fall tree colors. Details later.
- November 7 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- November 10 \*\*** **Charity Event** – (Sat) Dale Martin will check the possibility of our club taking part in a food packaging charitable exercise. Details later.
- November 17 \*\*** **Annual Business Meeting Party** – (Sat.) The annual business meeting, election of officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Officer's Club. Details later.
- December 1 \*\*** **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2008 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Tom Moerke will select the site.
- December 5 \*\*** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See previous notice.
- December 8 \*\*** **Tech Session** – (Sat) – Dick Mathews will check into the possibility of our having a Tech Session at a local shop that does custom mechanical work.

## Events Schedule 2008

- June 5 - 8 2008** **Rendezvous 2008 Winnipeg, Manitoba**
- July 2008 TBA** **Automotive Fine Arts Show in Hopkins, Minnesota**

\*\* - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

You are cordially invited to compete in the

# Second Annual Austin-Healey



Held at the regular PIE meeting of the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club  
At the Fort Snelling Officers Club  
Post Road just off MN Hwy 5, on the southeast edge of the airport

Wednesday, March 7, 2007, beginning at 7:00pm



"Big Daddy" Don Garlits



"Della "Funny Honey" Woods

Any vehicle that fits on a standard orange Hot Wheels track is allowed, as long as it's sole source of power is gravity. Other than that, it's unlimited. You can run bone stock or modified (fishing weights in the passenger compartment, pennies scotch taped to the roof, etc.). You are free to modify your car between runs, and you can run multiple cars. If you arrive empty handed, don't worry, we will have some loaner cars for you, as long as you are willing to sign the collision damage waiver. Cars will be run one-at-a time by specially trained race officials, using a state-of-the-art electronic timing system (a stop watch and a thumb).

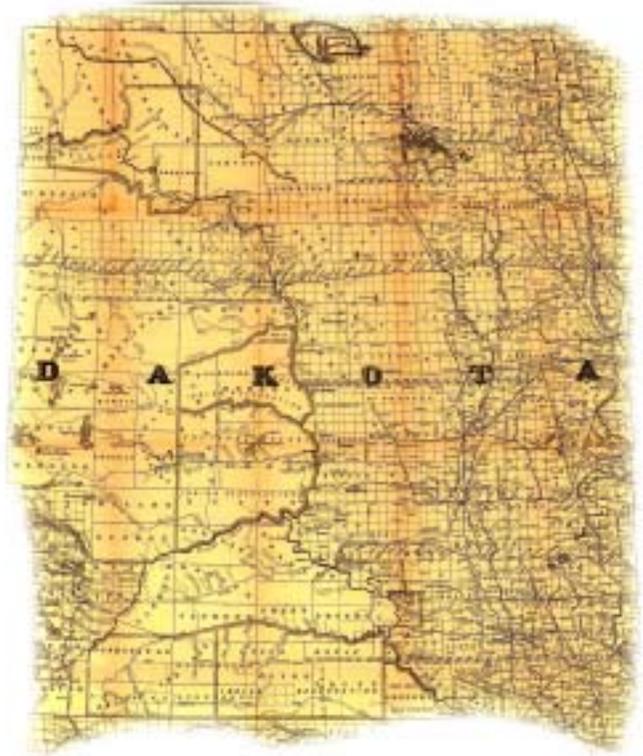
The top four finishers will receive highly coveted award certificates and priceless bragging rights.

Questions? Call Tom Hazen at 612-237-1883. See you and your family at the track!

# Dakota Expedition

Adventure, Romance, Cold Beer\*

Join the staff of the InterMarque Monthly on an adventure drive for arcane, unusual, bizarre, much-loved and well-used vehicles!



April 28 through May 3

The Expedition will leave the Square Peg Diner on the morning of April 28. Two days out, two days there, and two days back. Destinations include the Black Hills, Wall Drug, Mount Rushmore, the Badlands, and other fun stuff. Some freeway driving may be encountered but every attempt will be made to minimize it.

There are no entry fees, no sponsors, no rules, and no committees. In addition, there is no organized service or arranged lodging. Participation is at your own risk, fully understanding that breakdowns and roadside repairs are part of adventure travel in an old car. Obey all traffic laws or suffer the consequences!

The InterMarque Monthly staff will make this journey in a Citroën 2CV. Other bizarre and eccentric vehicles are encouraged to join the expedition.

If interested please contact:

Tom Moerke  
910 Ridge Pass  
Hudson, Wisconsin 54016  
715-386-5341  
tcmoerke@pressenter.com

*\* In the event that sufficient English cars join the expedition, an attempt will be made to locate a source of warm beer.*

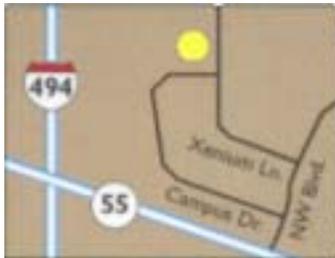
*Signs of Spring*

2007 Spring  
Kick Off



# INTER-MARQUE SHOW AND BRUNCH

## MAY 20



### 1. VINTAGE FOREIGN CAR SHOW (10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.)

The famous spring kick-off show returns to the walking path around the Radisson Plymouth. The show is **FREE**. Show cars, race cars, and works in progress are all invited. This year's theme is "007," and a special invitation is extended to any of James Bond's cars. *(No RSVP is required for the show, but it helps us to prepare enough entry packets.)*

### 2. AWARDS, BRUNCH BUFFET & GET-TOGETHER (NOON - 2:00 P.M.)

Starting at noon, there will be a buffet, awards ceremony, and intermarque get-together at the Radisson. The price is only \$15.75 per person. *(Money collected at the door. Please RSVP if you wish to attend the banquet as the Radisson needs an estimate of the number of attendees.)*

Please RSVP for brunch by May 15

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Car(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Club (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

# Banquet Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to Phyllis Galberth, 19390 Judicial Road,  
Lakeville, Minnesota 55044

[deegalberth@yahoo.com](mailto:deegalberth@yahoo.com)

#### AWARDS AND PRIZES

Trophy Awards (people's choice)

BEST OPEN CAR (1, 2 & 3)

BEST CLOSED CAR (1, 2 & 3)

LADIES' CHOICE

MASTERS' CLASS (PAST WINNERS)

UNPOLISHED PEARL

PAPER AWARDS (judged)

MARQUE WITH THE MOST ATTENDEES

BEST BOND CAR

BEST JAMES BOND

BEST BOND GIRL

Plus TONS of DOOR PRIZES (MUST  
ATTEND BRUNCH TO WIN)

# Healey Hillclimb VI

## Saturday, June 2, 2007

(rain date Sunday, June 3)

### Afton Alps Recreation Area

The Minnesota Austin-Healey Club invites you to **TAKE THE HILL!** Hillclimbs enjoy a proud place in the history of European motor sports. Now you can be part of that tradition and make history with your own run **TO THE TOP!**

**On-site check in opens 7:00am, closes 8:30am**  
**MANDATORY drivers meeting at 8:30am**

**Advance registration only - Payment required in advance!**

Drivers must be 18+, sign waiver, pass on-site tech inspection, wear helmet (Bring Snell 85 or newer. We'll have some loaners)



Paul Weidner climbs the hill in his Speedwell Sprite - Photo courtesy Andy Lindberg

This event brought to you by the



**Vintage Race Car Exhibit by our friends:**  
**See pre- and post-war track classics!**



**CORNER WORKERS NEEDED!** Want to get close to the action but not drive? Like to wave flags and blow whistles? Free treats provided to all volunteers, and those who stay 8am to 5pm will receive a free buffet lunch! Space is limited, so call Tom now to reserve your coveted place among the cones.

Directions: I 94 East past St. Paul, take exit 253 and turn right onto Manning Ave/Hwy 95. After 6.8 miles turn left onto 70th Street. After 3.5 miles turn left into the Afton Alps complex.

**Advance registration required! (deadline May 31)** \$40 per driver. \$25 for Austin-Healey Club members. Make check payable to the **Minnesota Austin-Healey Club** and mail to Tom Hazen, 130 East 18th Street #202, Mpls, MN 55403. Or pay via PayPal adding \$2 service charge to myliberty@comcast.net. Sorry, no refunds.

**Despite all precautions taken, this event remains dangerous and may result in property damage, serious injury, or death. Drivers, spectators, and workers enter at their own risk.**

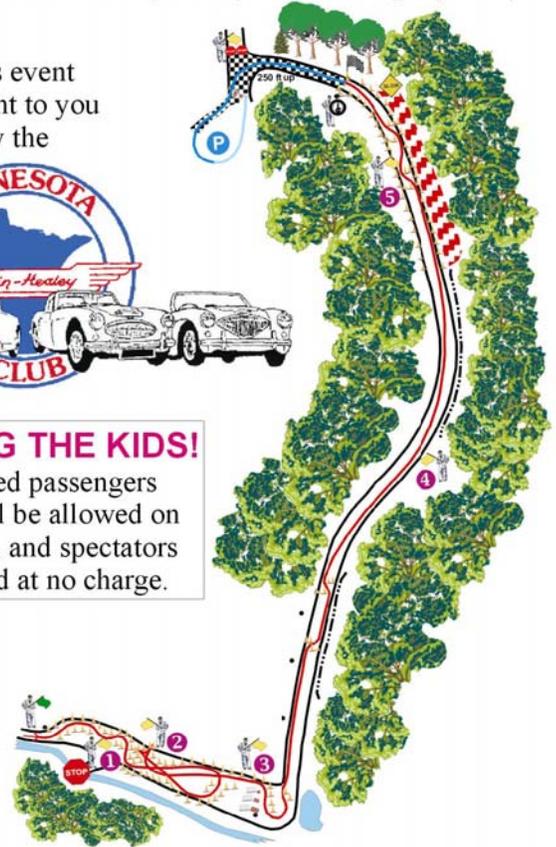
Driver



Year, make, model, color, requested car number

Email and phone

Questions? Contact Tom Hazen at 612-237-1883 or myliberty@comcast.net



### BRING THE KIDS!

Helmeted passengers 16+ will be allowed on all runs, and spectators admitted at no charge.

The course is entirely paved and consists of a 1/3 mile autocross section at the bottom of the hill with several tight turns and a back-up maneuver followed by a hill-climb section that rises 250 feet in just over 1/3 mile. Drivers will run in the order their paid registrations are received. We will try to give everyone four runs, more if time permits. From 12:30 to 1:30 we will take a break to enjoy the optional barbeque buffet luncheon served in the ski chalet (\$10 cash or check, pay at the buffet).

Free breakfast treats provided by the  
**Square Peg Diner**

2021 East Hennepin · Mpls · 612-378-0855  
 www.squarepegdiner.com

**SEE YOU ON THE HILL!**

## TECH TIP: Another In A Series About Brakes by Doctor Ernie (Dead Lake Motors)

In past issues I talked about things related to the front brakes, now let's move to the rear brakes. There's one type of rear brake that I'm not going to spend much time on. "The rear disc brake". Thank god, they're not very common. They were pretty much limited to high performance cars, or wanna-be performance cars. I won't name names, just suffice to say they all have more than their share of problems. The problems almost always were related to their inability to live with the everyday dirt and grime at the back of the car, and their dismal life and ineffectiveness as a parking brake.

So moving on to just plain drum brakes, let's start with disassembly and inspection. To remove the drum, it's not uncommon to have to back off the shoe adjustments. There are too many types of adjusters to cover in this short tech tip, so if you're not familiar with your type, you'll have to research a shop manual. But once you have the drums off, close inspection and comparing side-to-side can save you considerable time and grief later. Start first by getting a drain pan to put below the brake assembly, then use plain old warm water with dish soap to wash off most of the brake dust. **NEVER** use an air hose to blow this dirt off, as it's full of asbestos and metallic particles that are extremely harmful to your lungs.

Once you have the brake parts mostly clean, get a clipboard and paper, and then draw a rough sketch of all pieces, noting locations and colors of springs. Also note length and position of the actual friction material as well as its color. Marking the shoes with a scratch awl or ice pick is a good idea. When disassembling I generally do only one side at a time so that I have a pattern to help remind me on reassembly. The danger of that practice is that you are assuming they were assembled right the time before. It's not unusual to find the right side assembled differently than the left side. If you have any doubts always consult a shop manual. The lining material density and length is different for the primary shoe than it is for the secondary shoe and their positions can vary depending on how the shoes are anchored.

Now that you've determined exactly where each shoe and spring goes it's time to inspect the wheel cylinders. If they are leaking, that's a reasonable sign that you can at least get them apart. If the outer cylinder boot has leaked water into the cylinder, it's sometimes almost impossible to get them apart. If you're lucky enough to get the cylinder apart, you need to hone the cylinder bore using soapy water as a honing fluid. Don't spend too much time trying to save pitted or corroded cylinders, because many times a repair kit is almost as expensive as a whole new cylinder. When assembling a cylinder use only brake fluid or a brake assembling gel. Never use any petroleum product to clean or assemble brake hydraulic parts.

Next make sure the axle seals aren't leaking. Then back off the emergency brake cable or mechanism. Unlike the front brake rotors (discs), brake drums need to be near perfectly smooth and true. Don't forget to wash these off with soap and water when you get them back from the machine shop. If you're restoring the whole system don't paint the mating surfaces of the axle or hub and drum. File or grind off any rough areas where the shoes contact the brake back plate. A light dab of high temp grease should be put on these shoe to back plate contact areas, but take care not to get any grease on the shoe linings or drums. If any clips, springs, adjuster cables, or self adjusters are questionable or are a different length than it's twin on the other side of the car replace them.

The general order of assembly is: wheel cylinders, shoes and springs, drums, adjust the shoes, bleed the brakes, adjust the emergency brake, road test, recheck adjustment.

I'll cover master cylinders and bleeding the system in the next tech tip.

SAFE MOTORING!

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