



The *Healey Enthusiast*

Volume XXII No. 3

March 2011



....discussing the finer points of Morgan Trikes !

MARCH EVENTS

WED. MAR. 2

PIE MEETING

SAT. MAR. 19

TECH SESSION

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Minnesota Web Site **www.mnhealey.com**

National Web Site **www.healeyclub.org**

PIE

(PRESIDENT'S INFORMAL EVENING)

Date: Wednesday March 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.

Breakfast at the Peg

Come to this casual event (most) every Saturday morning about 8:00 a.m. for great food, reasonable prices, & lots of Intermarque car enthusiasts. It's a fun way to start off your weekend !

Bring your appetite !

The location: **The Square Peg Diner**
2021 East Hennepin Ave.



Cover photo by Geoff Rossi.

THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation. 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 Inc. is operating as a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation and is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America, Inc.

Presidential Ponderings

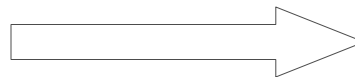
By EILEEN WETZEL

March is here! Yay!! It's still too early to pull out our cars but not too early to think about tune-ups and finishing our winter projects.

March and April are good months for tech sessions. Last spring I went to my first tech session at Steve Rixen's shop. I was accompanying Gary to mainly get out of the house on a beautiful day and walk our dogs in different surroundings. Also there was the possibility of food! What I had not planned on was to become totally engrossed in the different topics that Steve presented - one being a demonstration of how to torque head bolts.

Fast forward a few months. I am sitting in my chair at work assisting my boss, the dentist (my boss is the finest dentist that I have had the good fortune to work for, and does the best dentistry I have ever seen in anyone's mouth). We place a lot of implants, which consist of four parts. The fixture is the part that replaces the root of the tooth in the bone. The abutment replaces the part of the tooth above the gum and is held in place by the abutment screw. A crown cemented on top completes treatment. Progress in technology is a wonderful thing in that white zirconium abutments are a strong, aesthetic alternative to silver titanium abutments, giving very natural results.

The important part of this story is that abutment screws need to be torqued. We have a small wrench solely for this purpose. My boss had a habit of torquing five to six times quickly and consecutively. With a titanium abutment this is not a big deal, but the fateful day came when a gentleman presented a "more difficult" case. We were about to place three porcelain crowns on three zirconium abutments to finish his treatment and give him a beautiful smile (they were towards the front). The final act before cementing the crowns was to torque the abutment screws which previously had been only hand tightened. Using the wrench with great gusto, my boss went at it while I squirmed in my chair. Before I could finish mixing the cement, "ping, ping", and two of the three abutments had shattered. (I could go into the differences in abutments regarding compressive and intrinsic strengths, but choose to spare you. Don't ever doubt a zirconium abutment.) Because of the difficulty of the case and the excessive torque forces, these abutments broke. Needless to say, my boss was not a happy camper. The patient was not thrilled either. Now we had to place and prep new abutments, re-impression, remake new temporary crowns, and wait another four weeks for the finished porcelain crowns - all at an additional cost to the dentist. The good news was that we stock abutments and had the type needed on hand.



(Continued on page 4)

THE PRESIDENTS INFORMAL EVENING

BY EILEEN WETZEL

People in attendance: Curt Carlson, Carl and Betty Stine, Gary and Eileen Wetzel, Greg Lauser, Tom and June Moerke, Jeff Lumbard, Tom Politiski, Jeff Johnk, Jim Kriz, Rich and Liz Stadther, Jack Stein, Ed Raschke, Wendi Sott, Tom Hazen, Dave Herreid, Roger Strauman, Jim Manion, John Snyder, and guests Mark Brandow, Bob and Lorie Jensen.

It was another nice turn out for PIE in February. We were having such a nice time visiting that I was reluctant to start the meeting. Tried to keep it short and sweet, so we could get back to the important stuff - comraderie of Healey enthusiasts!!

Thanks and appreciation were given to Greg and Nancy Lauser for hosting a wine and cheese party. A good time was had by all that attended.

Upcoming events were discussed, as well as membership renewal (a late fee of \$5.00 is assessed after March 1). Intermarque, Rendezvous, and Conclave were also mentioned.

The state of our finances was reported. I am happy to say it appears that the conversion from paper to e-mail newsletters has made a significant positive impact on our bottom line. Way to go members!!! See you next month.

Presidential Ponderings continued...

When this all happened, I slipped into the lab, called Steve and asked "isn't it true that you increase the value of pressure each time you torque a screw"? Steve confirmed and reiterated that the increase was 3-5%. He then instructed me to drop the consulting fee in the mail. (He is still waiting for that check!)

Now came the tricky part - pulling my boss aside, and gently giving him a torquing clinic. (Dentists generally are not good at taking advice from their assistant; my boss is truly the exception). He listened to me courteously, thanked me for the input, and walked down to the oral surgery office to confer with a surgeon/colleague. The surgeon did confirm my torquing technique and later told me that I had a lot of courage to confront my boss. My boss is a great dentist with enough humility to listen to an assistant; and our patient now has a full, beautiful smile that will last his lifetime!

The moral of the story: the tech session of Steve's was about cars, yet the knowledge that was learned could be applied to life. Cars and Life's Lessons. Don't miss the next tech session, as it could change your life - or the life of a patient!

Eileen Wetzel, LDA

Pres, MAHC



Rustin Healey Club

SUB-ZERO DINNER

THE SUB ZERO DINNER WAS HELD ON FEB 19TH AT THE HOME OF MIKE AND GLORIA LYNCH. THE FOOD WAS FABULOUS WITH APPETIZERS, SMOKED HAM, BACON WRAPPED QUAIL, BACON WRAPPED SCALLOPS, AND SALMON, SIDES AND DESSERT. Wow!

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE: CHEF MIKE, SPOUSE CHEF GLORIA, KITCHEN CREW: RHONDA AND COKE, VALET DRIVER MELVIN AND HAPPY GUESTS: GREG AND NANCY LAUSER, SPOOK AND BRIT JOHNS, JIM AND PATTY MANION, JUNE AND TOM MOERKE, EILEEN AND GARY WETZEL, STEVE AND KIM RIXEN, AND DALE AND BARB MARTIN. WITH BEER AND WINE FLOWING, WE ALL HAD A GREAT TIME !



BY DALE MARTIN



Winter Sunday Warmed by

January Wine & Cheese Fete

by Greg Lauser

It was a snow-covered, sunny but cold Sunday brightened by the fellowship, foods and wines contributed by all who attended the Wine & Cheese gathering at the home of Nancy & Greg Lauser on Jan. 30.

Fifteen members of the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club gathered from 1-4:30 p.m. in the chilly Wisconsin woods for an afternoon of taste-tempting foods, beverages and fun. Everyone brought a favorite hors d'oeuvres and a bottled beverage to share while catching up on how they were bearing up under the deepest-snowfall winter since the 1980s. Thanks to all who braved the cold weather and spottily-plowed roads to join the Lausers.

Those present were: Dave Lee, Gloria & Mike Lynch, Patty & Jim Manion, Dale & Barb Martin, June & Tom Moerke, Jean & Chuck Norton and Betty & Carl Stine.

In addition to sharing enjoyable conversations and confections, they were challenged by the Wine & Cheese Whiz Quiz put together by Greg. A good time was had by all, with prizes for those with the most correct answers. Winners were: First Place – Tom Moerke; Second Place – June Moerke, and Third Place – Jim Manion. Each winner received either a Future 50 Healey Spotter's Guide or Healey four-color posters from the Future 50 collection. Check how you might have done by taking the Wine & Cheese Whiz Quiz.

Wine & Cheese Whiz Quiz

1. What was Donald Healey's middle name?
2. What was President Harry Truman's middle name?
3. What actor first starred in a movie titled *True Grit*?
4. Who was that actor's co-star in a sequel titled *Rooster Cogburn*?
5. In 1931 Donald Healey won the Monte Carlo Rally driving a vehicle of what marque?
6. When accused by a matronly woman of being disgustingly drunk, who replied, "And might I say, you are ugly, and what's more, disgustingly ugly. But tomorrow I shall be sober?"
7. What year was the Donald Healey Motor Company founded?
8. What was the first and last name of the Dustin Hoffman's character in *The Graduate*? First and last names of Katherine Ross' character?
9. What U.S. author won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1939 and the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962?
10. In addition to heading Donald Healey Motor Company, of what other motor company was he chairman?
11. Who was president of Egypt before Hosni Mubarek?
12. Who were the two famous movie directors who had supporting roles in *Chinatown*?
13. What year was Donald Healey awarded a CBE by Queen Elizabeth for services to export?

Tiebreaker:

What actress had roles in both *The Maltese Falcon* starring Humphrey Bogart and *The Black Bird*, a 1970s spoof of the original movie, starring George Segal? (Hint: she also played Mrs. Cosmo Topper in the 1950s TV series *Topper*.)



SUNDAY SOCIAL – PLAY AND DINNER

By Geoff Rossi

A group of fourteen club members took over a row of seats at the Plymouth Playhouse on the 27th of Feb. to journey back to our Prom and 10th year Reunion from Springfield High. Yes, good ole Springfield. We were entertained along the way by our classmates and four Marvelous Wonderettes – Cindy Lou, Suzy, Missy and Billy Jean – singing through three dozen songs to make us laugh and cry. Unbeknownst to us, one of our group is an unrecognized thespian. Tom Moerke joined the gals on stage as Mr. Lee, the beloved theater arts teacher. All in all, it was a great time and Tom was a good sport.

After the applause had died, we drove a quick five minutes to Eileen and Gary Wetzel's home for wine, wonderful homemade hors d'oeuvres, some conversation, a hearty beef stew with biscuits, salad, conversation, fresh baked cookies and cheesecake, and did I mention, more conversation? All of this beneath a thirty-year-old fifteen-foot grapefruit tree that is currently bearing large yellow fruit. A big thank you goes to the Wetzels for opening their home and providing wonderful food, and to those who brought the salad and desserts.

Those travelers down Memory Lane were: the Curt & Teresa Carlson, Barb & Dale Martin, Tom & June Moerke, Susan and Byron Peterson, Steve & Kim Rixen, Diane & Geoff Rossi, and Gary & Eileen Wetzel.



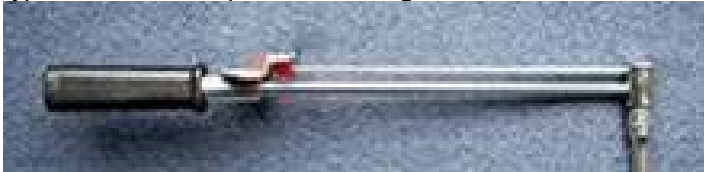
Torque Technique Tip III - Wrenches

By Steve Rixen

Torque is a measure of the turning force applied to a fastener. When assembling parts with fasteners such as bolts, nuts, studs etc., various wrenches, sockets and ratchets, or breaker bars are used to tighten the fasteners. Good torque technique is to apply torque to the nut while holding the bolt stationary and smoothly using a torque wrench to apply final tension to the fastener.

There are three basic types of torque wrenches in general use by the British car hobbyist.

The most common, least expensive and least accurate, is the **Beam Type**. The beam type is usually a round beam with a socket drive end. There is a smaller reaction pointer which ranges across a 'torque gauge'. As the main beam bends, the fastener is torqued. A higher quality beam type wrench has square or rectangular beams but is rare and expensive.



Use of the wrench involves making a smooth pull on the handle, bringing the handle toward your body in a smooth square arc while watching the pointer moving to the correct point on the gauge. This process is easier said than performed. Accurate use requires an assistant to watch the pointer while the torquer concentrates on a slow smooth pull.



Beam Torque Wrenches come in 1/4, 3/8, and 1/2 inch square drives and range from five inch pounds to 150 foot pounds torque capability. An advantage of the beam type torque wrench is that it is easy to calibrate. The picture above right shows an indicator which is not lined up with the Zero mark. 'Calibration' would involve bending the indicator beam to line up with the Zero line before using the tool.

The next type is the **Click Type** which may also have a reversible ratchet feature.

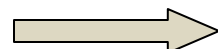


Use involves unlocking the micrometer type handle and turning it to line up the required torque setting on a micrometer marking or indicator window and then resetting the locking feature. The movement of the handle tightens an internal spring, which will cause a 'click' when the appropriate torque is applied by pulling the handle in a smooth arc toward you.

Click type wrenches come in the same drive sizes and ranges as the beam type. Care requires resetting the micrometer to the lowest value immediately after the last use of the day. Care should also include NEVER using the wrench for disassembly or using it as a common ratchet. Lack of care will sacrifice the accuracy of the wrench and lead to need for recalibration.

Recalibration is more difficult in that it requires adjustment of the preload spring tension and an electronic torque sensor, or a trip to Twin Cities Testing Service. Alternatively, comparison torquing with another wrench is an option. (Torque a fastener, mark the nut position, torque with the other check marks. Repeat at various settings, keeping track of differences - or buy a new wrench.)

Continued...



The last generally used type is the most expensive and is called the **Dial Type**.



The dial type has a reaction indicator which moves around a dial indicating the torque applied. It is very similar to the beam type in that it requires observing the dial while torque is applied. Usually there is a witness needle adjusted against the indicator prior to the torque pull, which provides positive indication of maximum torque achieved.

Dial types usually are available in drive sizes and ranges as the others; however, I have used a seven foot long one inch square drive to torque over 1400 foot pounds.

Recalibration of the dial type usually involves rotating the dial to align the zero position with the needle.

Next month's subject will be Torque Best Practices and procedures.

Tech Session at McQueen's

Date: Saturday March 19th

Time: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Healey Time

Place: The McQueen "Carriage House" - garage level, side door

415 11th Ave. S.E. Minneapolis, MN 55414

Parking: Next door at Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority 401 11th Ave. S.E.

Topics: Ignition System Operation, Options, and Problems.

Installation of a Pertronix Distributor.

To MSD or Not MSD?

Other Topics as they may arise.

Steve Rixen will conduct the session.

Scott McQueen will provide some refreshments.

Those interested may have Breakfast at the Peg and carpool to the site. There should be room for about 15 to 20 cars in the adjacent parking lot - and more on the street, since the U is on Spring Break.

InterMarque Newsletter

Are you getting the news about all the car club activities nearby?

You may be surprised at how much is going on in our area.

To read the InterMarque Newsletters, just go to the following website:

<http://intermarque.org/imm.newsletters.html> .

Click on any issue you would like to read, and bingo it's there!

Events Schedule.

- March 2**** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. Hot Wheels Night ! See page 2.
- March 19**** **Tech Session** – (Sat) At Scott McQueen's home in the garage. Details page 9.
- April 6 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- April 16** **Midwest Motors Sports Tech Party** – (Sat) Sauk Rapids, MN. Details later.
- April 30 **** **Adopt a Highway Clean-up** - (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. Arrangements are being made by Greg Lauser.
- May 4 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- May 13-15** **Vintage GT Challenge** – (Fri - Sun) This will be the weekend for the Spring races at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI.
- May 14** **Intermarque Spring Kick-Off** – (Sat) The Intermarque Council will again sponsor the Spring car show. Details later.
- May 15**** **Spring Awakening Tour** - (Sun) "Get Your Cars Out" tour to be arranged by Geoff Rossi.
- May 21** **Afton Alps Hillclimb – 10th Anniversary** – Tom Hazen will again run this ever popular event. Watch for more details.
- June 1 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- June 11** **Amery Competition Run** – (Sat) Excellent test running of your favorite Sports Car orchestrated by Tom Hazen.
- June 16 - 19** **Rendezvous 2011** - (Thurs-Sun) This will be the 21st year for the annual Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The location this year will be in Fargo, North Dakota. Get your hotel reservations in early!
- June 17-19** **Back to the 50's Car Show** – (Fri-Sun) This gigantic annual show will be at the MN State Fairgrounds again – maybe 10,000 cars??
- June 26** **Cherokee Park Picnic** – (Sun) Monthly InterMarque picnic, and the MAHC will be hosting on this Sunday.
- July 3 – 7** **Austin Healey Conclave** – (Sun-Thurs) This year the national AHCA Conclave will be in Colorado Springs, CO. Sounds like a great location for the event. Reserve early !
- July 13 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 pm. Note second Wednesday this month only.
- July 15 – 17** **Kohler International Challenge** – (Fri – Sun) This is the super big annual vintage car race event held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. For details, call J. Johnk, J. Lumbard, D. Powell, or R. Stadther.

**** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity**

Events Schedule

- July 22** **InterMarque Movie Night** – (Fri) Join your Sports Car loving friends for an evening at the (outdoor) movies. Arrangements by Andy Lindberg.
- July 31** **Lynch Tour & Mexican Fiesta** – (Sun) This is a combined event with the Minnesota Jaguar Club. There will be a modest Tour before arriving at Mike & Gloria Lynch's home. Always great food in a great setting. Details later.
- July 31** **Intermarque Picnic** – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
- August 3 **** **PIE Meeting** - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- August 7 **** **Stine / Lauser Annual Tour/Country Picnic** – (Sun) Take a short Tour and then gather at the Stine Farm for their annual Luncheon on the Lawn. Foods are always delicious.
- August 13** **Brit Fest** – (Sat) 9:00 am – 1:00 pm New location this year in Hudson, WI. Watch for the announcement. Sponsored by the MN MG Group.
- August 21** **Hudson Rally** – (Sun) An intermarque car show and book sale will be in Hudson. Afterwards we can gather at Moerke's for a picnic.
- August 27** **Amery Airport Run** – Tom Hazen will hold a second run of the summer at Amery, WI.
- August 28** **Intermarque Picnic** – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
- Sept. 7 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed.) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- Sept. 9 – 11** **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., Jeff L., or Rich S. for details.
- Sept. 10** **Wheels 'n Wings/ Morgan-Healey Picnic** – (Sat) 8:00 am 31st Year! 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. Afterwards we will drive to Morgan owner John Compton's home nearby for the Morgan – Healey Picnic. Details later.
- Sept. 24 **** **City Lakes Parkway Tour** – (Sun) Enjoy a sunny Sunday afternoon driving the beautiful parkways of Minneapolis. Arrangements by Jim Kriz. Details later.
- Sept. 25** **Intermarque Picnic** – (Sun) 1:00 pm Monthly gathering for a picnic at Cherokee Park in St. Paul. Bring your own food and refreshments.
- Oct. 1**** **Adopt a Highway Clean-up** - (Sat) The second of our two clean-ups for the year is to be on this date. Arrangements by Greg Lauser.
- Oct. 5 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- Oct. 9 **** **Fall Color Tour**- (Sun) A Fall drive to Murphy's Landing is being considered. Further checking and arrangements are being done.
- Oct. 15** **Couples Friendly Tour** - Be out and enjoy the beautiful Fall colors in Wisconsin with our illustrious road event leader – Tom Hazen ! Details later.
- Nov. 2 **** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- Nov. 5** **Charity Event** – (Sat) 9:00 – 11:00 am. At the Feed My Starving Children building. Dale Martin arranges this very worthwhile event each year. It is an enjoyable exercise for a very good cause.
- Nov. 19 **** **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.
- Dec. 3 **** **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2012 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Geoff Rossi will select the site.
- Dec. 7**** **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- Dec. 17**** **Video/Testimonials Contest** – (Sat) This will be an interesting new event to be held at Dick & Karla Mathews' beautiful home. Don't want to miss this !

** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity

Minnesota Austin Healey Club Inc.
Gary Ronning, Editor
1019 Ridge Haven Circle
Buffalo, MN 55313

First Class Postage



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 the ad can be removed.

FOR SALE - Schumacher 1 Amp Trickle Charger for 12V batteries. New. Still in the box. \$35.
Call Geoff Rossi at 612 822 7069 or email to casadirossi@hotmail.com . (1/11)

FOR SALE – 1969 Austin Healey Sprite. Good runner – no problems. Asking \$4,000.
Call Tony Marquardt at 612-386-1604 or email tmarquardt@kidsquest.com . (3/11)

Steve Rixen is...

 **Strictly British** 

Parts, Service & Consultation

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