



New England News

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

From the Editor

Peter Rafe Williams
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Well here we are again in the grip of winter.

This is the time of the year that we start to make the upcoming year's schedule of events. Once in January and February the officers and Area Coordinators get together and start planning. If you have anything that you would like the club to do, give them a call and "volunteer" them to put it into the calendar.

If you didn't get to the Holiday Party, you missed a great night out with friends.

I had a great amount of stuff send over to me for the newsletter this last year. Keep it up; the Club needs the membership to continue to supply articles.

Thanks for the help with this thing.

President's Column

Greetings to you All

First of all, I would like to wish all of you a most happy, healthy, and prosperous new year, and one that is filled with peace and love. I know full well that for many people in our organization, 2007 is certainly going to be a year that will be busy and full of activity, for we are preparing to be the host of our national club's international conclave in June of this year. As many of the people, who are directly involved in the actual planning of this event have already learned, putting together the nuts and bolts of a conclave is akin to being involved in a Healey restoration. For it seems that no matter how many tasks you complete there are still others to get done, and that tends to underscore the enormous magnitude of putting together such a coordinated operation.

However, despite the daunting task that still exists in completing the work that will make The Green Mountain International Conclave a first class and memorable event, the committee charged with this duty is a first rate group of men and women blessed with the skills and dedication to create the best Conclave possible. For even at this point, a full six months before the event is scheduled to take place, the fantastic work ethic of all these people has resulted in much of the basic planning having already been completed. The many man-hours, which have been devoted to this project, by members of the conclave team is quite staggering, but they have approached the tasks given them with directness and dispatch. As president of this organization, I would like to recognize the hard work and huge amount of effort that the conclave committee has put forth in the name of the New England Austin Healey Club. All of these people are giving of themselves to put together an event that will be thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all those in attendance. I am certain that their work will result in a Conclave that others will view as the benchmark to be emulated for years to come.

So those of you who have not as yet registered for conclave, should get online today, go to our website, download the registration form and sign up for Green Mountain International Conclave, I know that you will be happy that you did!

See you in Vermont! Frank

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NEW ENGLAND REGION HAS INCORPORATED

By Bev Sealand

For several years, we have discussed the need to establish by-laws for the New England Region. Since we will be hosting Conclave this year, we took under serious consideration National's strong recommendation that we incorporate, as most of the more recent Conclave host clubs have done. By incorporating, this will significantly help to protect our regional officers, event coordinators and members from liability. As a result of pursuing incorporation, we needed to establish by-laws to be filed with our articles of incorporation. With the expert legal assistance of Ed Brennan, one of our Boston area members, we have put in place by-laws that will help better define how we conduct business in the region. Ed has made sure that these by-laws are flexible and open-ended enough to enable us to continue to focus on having fun. As we begin to work within this new framework, we will be able to determine if we need to make some minor adjustments, using the amendment provisions built into the by-laws. The initial board of directors is comprised of Frank Motta as President, Bev Sealand as Secretary, Keith Risk as Treasurer, Bob Bender as National Delegate, and local coordinators are filling the five remaining director-at-large positions. We will hold an annual general meeting during the first quarter of each year, notification of which will be published in the newsletter at least three weeks prior to the meeting. Any other business meetings can be held as deemed necessary by the president and/or board of directors. A quorum for these meetings will constitute at least 5 of the directors mentioned above.

We want to thank Ed Brennan and all the members who volunteered their time to help in defining and refining these by-laws. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Frank Motta or Bev Sealand.

2007 Green Mountain International Conclave

Hi All

Deb reported today that we are at 149 registered which is half way to our goal. We are 90 days from the April 15 cutoff for the \$105.00 registration. In comparison, Ohio had 137 registrations before the cutoff date and 49 after. It looks to me like we have an excellent start. If you or anyone you know has not registered yet, please encourage them to do so.

Thanks DA

Austin Healey Club of America New England Chapter

More Notes on the NE Regions Cancer Fund Run

Schedule of Events

This is the time of the year that the Area Coordinators (AC's) get together with the Clubs Officers and start planning for the year to come, this years calendar is starting to shape up . So contact your AC with any ideas you may have and will pug them in.

Green Mountain International Conclave

The official Conclave site has been updated with Event Schedule Info and the brochure detailing all the events and activities.

<http://www.austinhealeyconclave.com/>

To make reservations at the hotel, you must have registration # from Deb Katz. Reservations will only be made online and through our contact at the Sheraton Hotel. Conclave attendees will receive special pricing so long as they register using their Conclave registration number.

The Von Trapp luncheon is close to selling out. The maximum number of people the lodge can accommodate is 200. We have 176 people registered as of 1-16-06. The Boat Dinner and Tour is also very popular, so don't wait until the last minute to register for that event.

All events are subject to change or modification

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Bob & Betty Bender drove their Healeys up the night before so that they could begin the rally early on Friday at the Maine Mall. What they didn't know was that they would be the only ones gathering on that morning to head south along Route 1.

By the time they had reached Brit Bits in Rye, NH,, the morning coffee stop, Betty's arm was already sore from beating the rear bulkhead to keep the fuel pump operating. There, however, they were warmly met by Sam Smith, the owner, several other Healeys and Bob Abbott from Greenland, who had coordinated the stop. With a little more money now in the donation box and a few more cars in line, off to the lunch stop, which was going to be Lexington, MA. The Healeys were well received in the town center by minutemen Len Cannizzaro and Skip Saunders, who had co-authored the stop and the route in and out of the busy historical town. Jim Smith was a long distance arrival as he had driven up from CT to run the rest of the route on Friday.

More donations, a quick trip to the bathroom and the afternoon drive down to Wrentham, MA, where there would be a much anticipated stop at Tootsie's Ice Cream Shop, located alongside the town green. There, Jim Mousseau, ice cream lover and stop coordinator, met the rally team and spent some refreshing moments inside Tootsies. We have to say thank you to the owner, Jim LoRusso, who certainly got into the spirit of our event by donating \$100 to our cause. Now a 7 car team, the rallyers began the last leg on Friday by continuing south to Scituate, Rhode Island. The BMC Club of Rhode Island has weekly gatherings at the Gazebo on Route 116 in Scituate during the summer. Marge and Louis Guillett as well as Jim Mousseau, had arranged to have the club assemble a little earlier in support of our effort.

There was a very good showing of British iron on a very pleasant evening. Pizza was provided as well as french fries and plenty to drink! The donation box was beginning to fill up nicely. a reporter and photographer from the Providence

Journal showed up and did a great article on the event as well as the Austin Healey automobiles. As darkness overtook our wonderful social gathering the first days' take was counted. A little over \$2300.00! Not a bad start. Many of the rallyers went off to different overnight accommodations to rest up for Day 2.

Hi,

I'm Steve Byers, keeper of the BJ8 Registry. I've just spent some time browsing several of your on-line issues of the New England News. Congratulations on a very well-done newsletter -- maybe the best one I've seen for Healey clubs. I'm envious of all the activities you guys have going on up there, and your ability to drive the cars in some really beautiful landscape. I'm looking forward to next year's Conclave and the opportunity to drive my BJ8 in New England.

I was directed to the newsletter by someone who has been searching for a BJ8 to buy, and he contacted me based on the invitation to do so that was included in your column in the July-August 06 issue of the newsletter. I always appreciate the publicity for the registry, so thanks for that. However, I note that neither e-mail nor mailing address for me was included (probably because the text was copied from a post I made to the Healeys list). I hope that any other members of your club who might like to follow up on the invitation will think of Googling me and the registry on the internet, which is how this person found me. You have my e-mail address, and my snail mail address and other contact info is included below, if you should find a place for it in a future issue.

Anyway, the newsletter has given me the opportunity to update several entries in the registry, with new e-mail addresses and phone numbers for some of your club members, and other information such as the news that you had sold your BJ8 in 2003. Could you allow me to complete the update for HBJ8L/30574 by telling me to whom you sold the car? If possible, I would like the selling date

(month and day, if you have a record of it or still know it), and name/address, etc. of the buyer. One of the goals of the registry is to maintain a continuous ownership history of each car. This is for the benefit of those owners of the future who might like to know the history of their car, since there is no other place where that information can be documented and preserved for posterity.

Thanks, and Happy Healeying!

Steve Byers BJ8 Registry

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1961 Austin-Healey "Bugeye" Sprite.

Iris blue w/blk top & interior. Bare metal restoration completed in 1999 costing \$16,500 and fully documented. Engine (948cc), rib-case transmission, body and paint professionally rebuilt and restored. All aluminum was anodized, chrome re-chromed and rims powder coated. All parts fully restored or replaced. About 500 miles since restoration completed. \$15,000 firm. Not cheap, but you won't be disappointed. Ed Jackson, Thomaston, Ct. 860-283-8659 or Email: edevjackson@snet.net