



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

Jim Smith

Bluechiracing@snet.net

As your new Editor, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Pete Williams for all his hard work during the past two years in this position. Pete made some innovative improvements during his tenure, and he will be assisting me as I struggle through my first few issues. Indeed, he has already been a huge help in making the transition. Thanks Pete.

In this issue you will find info on the upcoming Sprite Bash in PA, the 2008 European Austin-Healey Meet in Sweden, and a listing of some great local events planned for the 2007 driving season.

.....and more, read on.....

Please let us know what YOU would like to see in the newsletter. Tech tips? Auction results? Member profiles? Members Cars? Email your suggestions to bluechiracing@snet.net .

President's Column

Greetings to you All

Today it seems quite amusing to me to find myself writing this column about Austin-Healeys, and the fun of the driving season, in the midst of such an extremely vicious cold snap. We are presently experiencing, as all of you not fortunate enough to be a snowbird are personally aware, a winter of record setting cold since the middle of January. With this kind of weather permeating our area it is difficult to imagine cruising down the road in our Healeys with the roof down. But despite the present unfavorable conditions, I know from previous experience that it won't really be that long before the weather breaks. Six weeks from now we will be dusting off our cars and getting them ready for the upcoming driving season. Be assured that Spring will be upon us a great deal sooner than we expect, and we need to have our cars ready in order to be able to participate in the various activities that the club is presently planning for the upcoming Healey season.

We hope to have a full slate of interesting meets once again this season. As you know there will be no Summit held this year, because of our region's hosting of the International Conclave in Burlington Vermont this coming June. It promises to be a splendid event that will afford all of us here in the New England club an opportunity to not only show off the beauty of our region to other Healey owners, but also to allow our own members to attend a conclave without having to travel a great distance.

I have spoken to some of our members who have always wanted to attend a Conclave. However, they have been unable to take all the time that is very often necessary to drive a great distance to a far away location, and thus far have been unable to be part of a national event. Let us hope that the close proximity of the Green Mountain Conclave to almost any part of our New England region will afford every member of our club who wishes to participate a real opportunity to attend. If you are one these local members that is considering going to Burlington in June, I would strongly suggest that you get your registration in as soon as possible. The last time I spoke with those who are handling the registration there were already close to 230 cars registered. You need to consider the fact that, although the Sheraton Hotel in Burlington is quite a large facility, that there are only a finite number of rooms available to house the participants of Conclave. You need to be further aware that

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President's Column (cont.)

you need to be registered for the Conclave, and have your number in order to book a room at the Sheraton during the dates assigned to Conclave. So if you have a real interest in being with us in Vermont, you need to get on the ball and sign up right away. To hesitate may cost you the opportunity to attend. Don't wait, SIGN UP TODAY!

Frank

Trivia Quiz Question March 07

What was the goal in early 1953 for Austin and the Donald Healey Motor Company? (answer on last page)

From the desk of Etienne Cloche', foreign correspondent

In May of 2008, there will be a series of celebrations as Little Healey fans around the world hold a giant 50th year birthday party for the Bugeye Sprite. Dr. Rick Moses and friends will be putting together the 50th "Sprite Bash" in the Carlisle, PA area. If you have attended the past "bashes" every five years, you know that the fiftieth will be spectacular. Rick has always provided an enjoyable meet with great guests, fun events and hundreds of Sprites. As more info becomes available, I will be sure it gets into our newsletter.

For those who would like to travel a little further away to celebrate, the United Kingdom should be on your itinerary. Both the Austin Healey Club of Great Britain and the Midget-Sprite Club are planning some special events to commemorate this friendly, infectious, little cars birth. Track time at Goodwood will be the main attraction provided by the Austin Healey Club. Event costs will be minimal and information regarding travel, hotel availability and other events will be forthcoming. The Sprite Midget Club will hold a weekend rally with special guests, events and a few surprises for attendees. If you are interested in any of these events, please contact the "Spriteguy" to be put on "the party list".

Sprite ownership is not a requirement, it's just a necessity ...if you want to join in on the fun!

Until my next column, I bid you "adieu"!

Etienne Cloche'

Newsflash!

The 2008 European Austin-Healey Meet in Sweden has been sold out! Host spokesman Per-Gunnar Johansson has posted the information on their website www.healeysweden.com. Although sold out at 225 cars, there are plans for additional hotel rooms for



Healey fans who want to be part of the week long festival. However, even these "backup" arrangements are filling up fast. Please get to the website now if you have any interest in attending. There are a few members of our New England Club who are pre-registered to go. You can contact Randy Hicks or Steve Bell for additional information. Steve is also considering a 4 to 5 week tour following the event for anyone who may be interested in bringing their car to Sweden. He can be reached at scbell1@comcast.net

2007 Green Mountain International Conclave



This Big Healey owner is already practicing so he can win the Gravity Games at Conclave this year. Make sure YOU are there for this event! Be sure to register NOW!

www.austinhealeyconclave.com

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Christmas Party 2006

Thanks to all of our club members who attended our Christmas party this past year at La Notte Restaurant in East Windsor, Connecticut.

It was the largest Christmas party I am aware of in the almost 25 years I have been a member of this club.

89 members signed up for the party and 85 attended. There were a lot of laughs, jokes, meeting old and new friends, and great food.

Plenty of room to move around and give Santa a hard time.

As usual, Santa showed up and gave the ladies a really difficult time during the gift swap and there were lots of laughs and jokes. Bob is never around to enjoy this. He misses Santa every year.

Hope everyone did have a good time and enjoy the meal. It was our first time trying this restaurant and as far as I know everyone seemed to have a good time and it was convenient for everyone compared to years past per comments from different people. Having the hotel nearby, which offered shuttle service, made it convenient and safe.

The Christmas Party for 2007 will be on December 1, 2007 at the same place, La Notte Restaurant in East Windsor, Connecticut.

More information will follow at the appropriate time.

Thanks again and here's to you enjoying your upcoming Healey season.

Betty Bender

2007 Events and Meets

- March 31 Get Acquainted Meet, Dalton, MA.
Gerry Paquette
- May 6 Spring tune-up South, Mansfield, MA
Pete and Cindy Sturtevant
- May 12 Spring tune-up North, Ipswich, MA
Dave Altman and Bob Abbott
- May 18-20 Vintage Races, Louden, NH
Jim Smith
- May 18-20 Carlisle AutoJumble, Carlisle, PA
Steve Bell
- June 1-2 Vintage Races, Lime Rock, CT
Jim Smith
- June 3 British By the Sea, Waterford, CT
Dave Barton
- June 24-29 Conclave 2007, Burlington, VT
- July 29 Auto Museum Stafford Springs, CT
George Randall
- Aug 25-26 Balloon Show, Plainville, CT
Deb Katz (tentative)
- Aug 30- Sept 3 Vintage Festival, Lime Rock, CT
Jim Smith
- Sept 16 British Invasion, Stowe, VT
Paul Dunnell
- Oct 13 Fall Foliage Tour Western MA
Don and Carole Paye
- Dec 1 Christmas Party, E. Windsor, CT
Betty Bender



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Western Mass Newcomers Meet, March 31
(oldcomers welcome also)

Save Saturday March 31 as a date for a gathering to meet any new members and to reunite with past members after a cold second half of winter.

Plan to arrive at 10 to 12 or so and will go on until last person leaves. A buffet of Gerry's Mexican fare will begin at 1:00 PM. Soft drinks, Mexican beer, and sangria will be available.

Please try to encourage any new members to attend as your guests.

Directions: From Mass pike West, take exit 2 to route 7 & 20 north to down town Pittsfield, and take route 9 to Dalton. Go left on route 9 at Cumberland Farms and after a mile or so take a right on Orchard Rd and another right on Appletree Lane. Number 57 is on the left.

From the East and route 91, exit at Northampton Exit 19, and follow route 9 to Dalton. Take a left on Orchard Rd and a right on Appletree Lane, number 57 is on the left.

Call or email Gerry Paquette to RSVP so he can plan on food. 413 684 3927. Gpaquett@aol.com

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.

Spring tune-up and Newcomers meet, Saturday, May 12 Ipswich, MA

Join us at the warehouse in Ipswich, Ma. for a combination "New Members Meet" and "Spring Tune-up." The "tune-up" theme always seems to bring out the gear-heads in the group and maybe by calling this a "New Members," we'll see some new faces as well. Don't think this is for wrench turning guys only. Those who have been to the warehouse before know that there is ample space for those that want to sit and chat with old friends, enjoy a glass of wine, or commiserate about the weather. But the shop area of the warehouse also allows us to invite anyone to bring their supplies for small service or repair jobs on your car. The lift will be ready if you need it and we have most of the tools anyone will need. There are also a couple of BJ8 restorations in the works for you to look over and tell us what we are doing wrong.

Things will get under way around 9:30 - 10:00 o'clock and we'll have the Hart House cater lunch about noon. So bring your wives, your supplies, and your questions. We'll try to find the answers from the assembled knowledge.

Directions to follow in later newsletters. But for more information call Dave @ 508/577-0077 or Bob @ 603/425-3333.

New Members

We wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to the following new members to our club:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Brian Carroll | Barre, MA |
| Jim & Louise Feeney | Endicott, NY |
| Bruce Pfund | Westerly, RI |
| Carmine Abate | New Britain, CT |
| Robert DeRosa | Lloyd Harbor, NY |

Trivia Answer:

To capture the international speed records for Non-Stock Automobiles in Class D.

“The record attempt was to cover over 3,000 miles in 24 hours and to establish speed records all along the way, running on the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.”

Obtained from: The Healey Book- page 96 (First 2 paragraphs)

Spring Tune Up and Newcomers meet Sunday, May 6th 10 AM to 4 PM

10 Cedar Ridge Lane, Mansfield, MA 02048
508 339 1582

Here is your chance to get your Healey ready for summer driving and Conclave 2007. Pete and Cindy Sturtevant will host the “Healey Spring Tune Up and Newcomers meet”. 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? Need to use a MIG welder? Need to sand blast some parts? Do you have a nagging problem with your Healey, and would like some advice from knowledgeable “experts” in the area?

The expectation is to focus on modest Healey jobs, like tune-ups, oil and grease, tire rotation, etc. You will be responsible for providing your own parts and supplies.

Continental Breakfast and Cookout Lunch will be included in the day’s festivities. Please RSVP your attendance to Pete at: healeybn4@comcast.net or call 508 509 5517 by May 1st

Directions: From Route 495, take exit 10, Route 123 East (E. Main St.) towards Easton.

Wanted

Heater box and components for a 3000 in rebuildable condition or in excellent condition.
Call or email Paul Dunnell (413)339-0102
Austin67@together.net

Officers' Meeting

On February 17th, the officers of the New England Region – AHCA met in Sturbridge to try to nail down the schedule for the 2007 season of events. (see page 4 for event listing)

Considering the fact that we are hosting the International Conclave this year in Burlington, VT (hope you've sent in your registration), we have a pretty full calendar of activities planned.



Everything from new member get-togethers, to tours, to progressive meals, to car shows. Why don't some of you folks that lay in the weeds, come on out and join us in some of the fun? If you come to a meet and see how easy going it can be, next year you may want to host one yourself! Any of the veteran members like those you see in the picture, would love to help you plan something. At any rate, come out this year and see what the club is all about. We built a schedule, now it's up to you to take advantage of the opportunity. See ya on the road!

Cub Reporter, Bob Bender

Important Notice

February 15 was the deadline for renewing your membership. If you have not yet done so, please do it TODAY to make certain you'll continue to receive the Healey Marque and the New England Newsletter. Make your \$50 check payable to Austin Healey Club of New England, Inc (AHC of NE, Inc) and send it, along with the entire renewal form, to AHC of NE, Inc, 12 Fairfield St, Webster, MA 01570-3328. Thank you.

Another Important Notice

As noted by Bev Sealand in the last Newsletter, our club is now officially called Austin Healey Club of New England, Inc. Effective immediately, all bills, statements, correspondence, checks, etc should be so addressed. Please do not use Austin Healey Club of America-New England Region any longer. Checks can be made out to AHC of NE, Inc. Thank you.

For Sale

**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. You won't be disappointed. Ed Jackson, Thomaston, Ct. 860-283-8659 or Email: edevjackson@snet.net



CONCLAVE 2007 NEEDS YOUR HELP

To make Conclave 2007 a great success we need the members of the New England Region to volunteer their time to help out. Pick an event that interests you and call the committee head and tell them how much time you can offer. We need your help to make this event successful.

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