



# 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

Bluechipracing@snet.net

Auto racing, touring events, lots of car shows and even a balloon festival ...all the stuff that car lovers love. That's the agenda for the rest of the summer and into the fall for us Healey freaks. Now that Conclave is behind us, we can really enjoy these meets in a more relaxed frame of mind. ....Just come out and enjoy.

You can still convert to email delivery of the *New England News* and save your club a few bucks. You'll get it sooner, and in color, and make our treasurer happy. Just let me know and I'll make it happen. If you signed up for email and still get the snail – mail copy, please let me know.

Keep the shiny side up.....

Jim



## President's Column

Hello to you all

Now that the smoke has cleared from Conclave, many who were involved closely in its planning have been able to slip back into the ordinary routine of everyday life, and to them things probably seem a bit dull and relatively uneventful. However in my case the pace of my Healey activity is even more intense than it was last year. With no more work to do related to Conclave, I am going to finally begin the restoration of my original owner BJ8. After 26 years of delay and hesitation I have begun this project in earnest. I made my decision to initiate this restoration with a sober understanding and keen awareness that it will be both time consuming, and expensive. But I am equally assured that managing and directing this project myself will be a most interesting and rewarding experience.

I truly believe that this extensive project, which I have decided to undertake, will be made a good deal easier because of my affiliation with the Austin Healey Club of America.

Completing a total ground up restoration on an Austin Healey automobile requires a fairly good working knowledge of the particular car being restored, and big Healeys in general. Hopefully my many years of Healey ownership and the dismantling of a dozen or so big Healeys will serve me well in my endeavor. However, I am not a professional mechanic by any stretch of the imagination and know full well the limitations of my own ability, but I am also keenly aware of the vast amount of experience and intricate knowledge of the Healey marque that is possessed by the collective membership of our organization.

Not only does our membership have within its ranks a number of skilled technicians who earn a living from Austin Healey restorations, but our club has within its membership any number of mechanically talented armatures that can be an invaluable asset to me during my restoration. I know that I can enlist the aid of any number of knowledgeable members who I am quite certain would be willing to provide me with actual physical assistance in completing some specific aspect of the restoration. I know also that it will be important to pick the brain of some of the more experienced people in the club to glean good advice and valuable information. I feel very confident that I can learn a great deal about how to proceed through the restoration process by following the advice and evaluating the information gathered from other club members, who have themselves restored a Healey. They will no doubt have specific first hand information to share that will assist me in selecting the best professional restoration people to complete my car.

(Continued next page)

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President's Column (Continued)

So the human resources to do a first rate job are available for me to utilize. The present day access to a complete selection of quality spare parts that is now being offered for sale by several suppliers makes replacement rather than repair a sensible alternative. Put New! will be the hallmark of my restoration, as too many roadside breakdowns during my Healey driving days have been the result of putting my trust in components that I was uncertain of. "Better safe than sorry" is a more expensive course to follow when restoring a Healey, but the peace of mind that it brings is well worth the added cost. I believe that I will be able to complete this project in two years, but that remains to be seen. It will only move along as fast as my checkbook and motivation will take it.

Telling all of you about my restoration may seem to some a bit egotistical, but my real purpose is not to talk about me. My real purpose here is to try to motivate and inspire those of you who might have a Healey tucked away in the back of a garage, or hidden under a tarp in a carport to remember that life is finite. If you have dreamed of someday in the future restoring your Healey, I would advise you that the future is now. As my dear departed Aunt once told me, "nobody

**Order Your Conclave 2007 Badge**



\$35.00  
 INCLUDES SHIPPING  
 LIMITED QUANTITIES

To remember the great time everyone had at "Healey In The Hills" order your car badge for only \$35.00 includes shipping.

To order your badge E-mail Nick Zarkades ([zdesign@comcast.net](mailto:zdesign@comcast.net)) with address information or call him at 978.590.6067

Or mail a check for \$35.00 (make checks out to Austin Healey Club of N.E.) and send it to Nick Zarkades, 88 Bolyes St., Beverly, MA 01915 with your address.

**2007 Events and Meets**

- Aug 24-26 Balloon Festival and Car Show  
Plainville, CT  
Deb Katz  
[www.ctballooning.com](http://www.ctballooning.com)
- Aug 31- Sept 3 Vintage Festival, Lime Rock, CT  
Jim Smith
- Sept 16 British Invasion, Stowe, VT  
Paul Dunnell  
  
[www.britishinvasion.com](http://www.britishinvasion.com)
- Sept 22 BCNH British Car Show  
Merrimack, NH  
Bob Abbott
- Sept 29-30 British Legends Weekend  
Cape Cod British Car Club  
[www.capecodbritishcarclub.org](http://www.capecodbritishcarclub.org)
- October 13 Foliage Tour and BBQ,  
Shelburne Falls, MA  
Don & Carole Paye
- Dec 1 Christmas Party, E. Windsor, CT  
Betty Bender



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***Rolex Vintage Festival Presented by BMW  
Labor Day Weekend,  
August 31– September 3, 2007***

Labor Day weekend is always an exciting time at Lime Rock Park, the Racing Center of the East. The races are always exciting, especially with several Austin-Healeys filling the race grids. (I'll be racing the old faithful BN1 again this year). As usual, the New England Region of AHCA will man the "Healey Hangout" in the flea market. So come to Lime Rock, make some new friends, shmooze with old friends, buy some parts, watch the races, enter the car show....camp out and indulge.....  
Come for a day or the whole weekend.

Jim Smith

PS: See the note below from Fred Jackson.

***Rolex Vintage Festival Presented by BMW  
Labor Day Weekend,  
August 31– September 3, 2007***

To the Austin-Healey Club:

Here is ticket ordering info for the Austin-Healey Club: Go to [www.limerock.com](http://www.limerock.com), click on "Tickets", go to "Affiliate tickets", in the ID box enter 248, in the Password box enter AH2007 [case sensitive, use caps],. This will access 10% discount tickets which can be downloaded, sent by mail or for last minute by Fedex for a \$20 charge. By arrangement with Jim Smith, we have set up an AH corral for Saturday, September 1, with parade laps during the lunch break. The codes will allow us to keep track of the number of cars. And, of course, there will be a number of Healeys competing. We also have goody bags with an event program, poster, hat and a 50th Anniversary LRP pin.

Concerning the Sunday car show, this year sponsored by Road &Track, the contact is Marv Minkin at [marvinsm@msn.com](mailto:marvinsm@msn.com). There is an entry fee of \$30. and a good number of prizes. These include a Rolex 18k/stainless steel Daytona Chronograph for Best in Show, Rolex crystal medallions for Class winners and the R&T Award for the "Car We Would Most Like to Drive Home". Sunday is a really fun day. Hope your guys/gals are able to join us.

Fred Jackson

**Fall Foliage Tour  
October 13, 2007  
At the home of  
Don and Carole Paye  
24 Conway Rd.  
Buckland (Shelburne Falls), MA  
10 AM till everyone has left**

Come to Western Massachusetts to see some of the most beautiful foliage that New England has to offer. We will plan about a 1 hour tour in the area and we might even pass by the home of the famous B- - - C- - - -. As a bonus, you will have time to visit our beautiful "Bridge of Flowers" and the "Famous Pot Holes" which are both in the center of Shelburne Falls.

We are planning a "Backwards" dining experience for your pleasure!! We'll be starting at 10AM with desert followed about noon with teriyaki beef, salads and veggies. About 4 we will finish off with, you guessed it, breakfast (donuts, muffins, coffee and juice).

Be sure to join us for a relaxing afternoon.

RSVP by October 6, 2007 (413) 625-6568 .....hope to see many of you there.

Don & Carole

Directions:

**From the north:** follow RT 91 south to the Greenfield exit 26 \*

**From the east:** follow RT 2 west to RT 91 south to exit 26\*

**From the south:** travel north on RT 91 to exit 26 at the Greenfield rotary\*

\*take route 2 toward Shelburne Falls (about 8 miles), turn left at the "Sweetheart" Restaurant and next left onto Bridge Street to the center of SF. Cross the river and after the stop sign, BEAR left along the river (Conway St. Summer St. and South St.) continue crossing over the railroad tracks (about 1 mile). We are the 4th driveway on the right.

**From the west:** follow RT 2A to Shelburne Falls (State St.). After the stop sign, BEAR left along the river (Conway St., Summer St. and South St.) continue crossing over the railroad tracks (about 1 mile). We are the 4th driveway on the right.

**The 23rd Annual Plainville Fire Company Hot Air Balloon Festival and Car Show  
Norton Park, South Washington Street, Route 177  
Plainville, Connecticut**

**Friday, August 24th, 6:00pm to 10:00pm**

**Saturday, August 25th, 6:00am to 9:00pm**

**Sunday, August 26th, 6:00am to 9:00am**

**CAR SHOW Saturday, 9:00am to 3:00PM**

Rides: call CTBallooning at 860-209-0351 ask for Jim Regan or visit their Web site at [ctballooning.com](http://ctballooning.com).  
Tell him Deb Katz sent you.



**CLASSIFIED**

**FOR SALE**

1961 Bugeye, (Charlie's yellow bumble bee) car runs and drives great. Strong 1275 engine with all the extras; oil cooler, Mallory ignition, bigger carbs etc. And it's connected to a Datsun 5 speed gearbox. Front disc brakes, wide tires, cool wheels, electric fan, nice black interior, good top, side curtains, and tonneau. This car is fast and fun!

Asking price is \$15,000.00. Car will be at Lime Rock September 1st if it's still for sale.

Contact Paul Dunnell 802-254-9222 days, 413-339-0102 nights or at [austin67@together.net](mailto:austin67@together.net)

**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](mailto:Austin67@together.net)

**FOR SALE**

1961 3000 Mark 1 BT7 driver – restored in 1995. Original engine, transmission rebuilt, new floor, original tonneau. Driven less than 3,000 miles over past 12 years. Added new clutch, wiring harness, front seats reupholstered, steering wheel. Wire wheels and tires good. No body damage or apparent rust. Odometer reads 62,900, don't know actual. Engine starts quickly and runs well. New top from 1995, but not used in years. Current owner has never taken it on trips or driven in rain or snow. \$25,000 or best offer.

Jim Perakis (203) 563-0821



**THE RACING LINE**



By Jim Smith

Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix, July 15-16, 2007

Mid July every year hundreds of volunteers transform peaceful Schenley Park in downtown Pittsburgh into a thundering 2.3 mile racetrack.

Racers find the 2.33 mile course, run on the public streets of the Park very challenging. There are 19 turns, including two hairpins, stonewalls, curbs, fountains, bridges and beautiful grassy fields filled with thousands of spectators..

This year marked the 25th running of the PVGP, and the 12th year for me in the Blue Chip BN1.

There were six Healey 100's In the over 2 liter class running with Jaguars, Allards and other big bore cars. Richard Maloumian Jr. drove his 100M brilliantly in Sunday's feature race, placing second in class behind Tivvy Shenton's Jag XK140.

I had a great time dicing mid-pack with Ralph Steinberg in his Jag XK120. We changed leads at least four times during the 10 lap race. Half way through the race, I found myself planning a strategy where on the last lap I would set up the turn before the finish line with enough momentum to carry me past him before the checker. It worked.....inched past him by a wheel's length.

This is the sort of thing that draws me to vintage racing. Its not always about winning races; Its finding a closely matched competitor and dicing it out lap after lap; And its about the challenge of tweaking a little more horsepower or handling out of a 50 year old lump of a beat-up racecar.

I'm having too much fun!.....See you at Lime Rock.

Jim



www.BCNH.org

11th Annual



# Show of Dreams

## British Car Show

**September 22nd, 2007; 10:00- 3:00**

Location: Anheuser Busch Plant, Merrimack, NH.

British Car Show Registration

Pre-registration \$25.00

Additional car \$10.00

Day of Show: \$30.00

*Featured Marque*



**Awards/Trophies: 21 Classes + Best In Show, Best Club Participation, Diamond in the Rough**

Vendors Welcome: For a Vendor's Package: call/or e-mail Linda.  
LCagan@comcast.net or (603) 472-5212.  
\$50.00 plus a donation of one raffle item.



**Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00-3:00  
Anheuser Busch , Merrimack, NH**

Take Route 3 (Everett Turnpike) to Exit 10. East on Industrial Drive, then left on Daniel Webster Highway.



All car show proceeds donated to The High Hopes Foundation of NH



For further information, contact Bob Abbott at [HealeyBJ7@aol.com](mailto:HealeyBJ7@aol.com)