



# 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**

Well, summer is officially over, and there are only two more official meets on our calendar. You don't want to miss the foliage tour hosted by Don and Carole Paye, and the Christmas party is always a hoot especially with that magic mystery Santa who always seems to show up just at the right time.

There is still some of the best Healey weather coming in the next few months so if anyone has an idea for an impromptu meet of any kind, let me know and I'll get the word out.

Speaking of getting the word out...here's another advantage of receiving this newsletter by email. Any news not timely for the newsletter will be sent out by email, so if you are on my email newsletter list, you will get those messages.



## President's Column

Hi Guys

It won't be that long before the leaves begin to fall off of the trees, and the weather starts to reflect the end of the official Austin-Healey driving season. However a late Fall top up cruise can still be very enjoyable, and it is not necessary to put your Healey up for the winter until there is a real threat of impending snowfall. God knows that mere cold is no impediment to Healey driving, as being warm in the confines of the cockpit is an absolute given. So don't use cold temperature as an excuse for ending your driving this season, as an occasional weekend sojourn is still very possible at least into November. But despite my optimistic evaluation as to the actual length of the driving season, we must all come to grips with the fact that the use of our Austin-Healey automobiles becomes a good deal more limited as the Fall progresses. Realistically we need to begin to plan for off season club activities, and try to prepare for next year.

The fact of the matter is that next year will surprisingly be upon us before we know it, and therefore we need to begin thinking about the schedule of events for 2008. Traditionally the schedule is put together at the annual club meetings that are held in January and February. Here the board of directors works diligently to attempt to put together a full slate of great activities for the driving pleasure of our membership. But usually we get the same people hosting events, and most often the same core of people in attendance. As one of the last goals of my tenure as president of the New England Austin-Healey Club I would like to see some different members host a club event. People that may not have previously done so, but might have some ideas about an event that they feel would be a fun time. Oh I know what you are thinking! How would I get this idea passed through the board. as they don't know me, and they could care less about what I would want to do? That is absolutely incorrect, for as a paid up member of our local club you have every right to attend the board meeting and present your idea to us. I can assure you that any good idea for an event will be accepted and added to the schedule. So feel free to call any of the board members that are listed in the newsletter, and request that they put on the agenda for the board meeting in order to present your idea. For like I learned back in 1956 when I attended my first Jr. High School dance, don't be afraid to ask or you won't dance.

With the highest regard to you all for a pleasant Fall Season

Frank P. Motta

**Club Contacts**

**President**

Frank Motta · 508-636-8636

[fmotta14@gmail.com](mailto:fmotta14@gmail.com)

**Secretary**

Anne Motta · 508-636-8636

**Treasurer & Membership**

Keith Risk · 508-943-1841

[klrisk@charter.net](mailto:klrisk@charter.net)

**Newsletter Editor**

Jim Smith · 860-267-4325

[bluechiracing@snet.net](mailto:bluechiracing@snet.net)

**Web site**

Deb Katz · 860-436-9473

[deb.katz@opensolutions.com](mailto:deb.katz@opensolutions.com)

**Regalia**

Janet Kastberg · 413-245-4618

[Jenhly74@aol.com](mailto:Jenhly74@aol.com)

**Delegate**

Bob Bender 413-684-3934

[Rbender1@berkshire.rr.com](mailto:Rbender1@berkshire.rr.com)

**Area Coordinators**

Eastern CT

Jim Smith 860-267-4325

[bluechiracing@snet.net](mailto:bluechiracing@snet.net)

Dave Barton · 860-658-7147

[dbartonCT@sbcgolal.net](mailto:dbartonCT@sbcgolal.net)

Western CT

Bob/Judy Finucane 203-426-

3770 [Rfinucane@aol.com](mailto:Rfinucane@aol.com)

Western NH/VT

Bill/Debbie Berg 802-442-2777

[bill.berg@vtcomposites.com](mailto:bill.berg@vtcomposites.com)

Eastern NH

Bob/Jill Abbott 603-433-9544

[healeybj7@aol.com](mailto:healeybj7@aol.com)

Western MA

Bob/Betty Bender 413-684-3934

[Rbender1@berkshire.rr.com](mailto:Rbender1@berkshire.rr.com)

Eastern MA/RI

Steve Bell 508-947-6499

[scbell@mail.Rockland.mec.edu](mailto:scbell@mail.Rockland.mec.edu)

Maine

James Lea · 207-236-3632

[clocks@midcoast.com](mailto:clocks@midcoast.com)

New York

Dennis Broughel 518-663-8879

[brougheldp@wildblue.net](mailto:brougheldp@wildblue.net)

**CLASSIFIED**

**FOR SALE**

Car Cover. Fess up.....Your car gets wet inside even with the top up and the windows in. This cover will keep your new leather dry even in the worst rainstorm. \$75.00

George Randall (860) 684-5502

[grand60@cox.net](mailto:grand60@cox.net)



**WANTED**

Six Cyl. Crankshaft or BJ8 Engine.

George Randall (860) 684-5502

[grand60@cox.net](mailto:grand60@cox.net)

**2007 Events and Meets**

October 13 Foliage Tour and BBQ,  
Shelburne Falls, MA  
Don & Carole Paye

Dec 1 Christmas Party, E. Windsor, CT  
Betty Bender

**TIDBITS**

Conclave photos are available to view by going to the following website:  
[gallery.mac.com/rloosigian](http://gallery.mac.com/rloosigian)

Look for regalia items on sale in the November *New England News*

**30** Years of Experience, Knowledge & Quality Products

Wire Wheels • Tires • Hubs • Adapters  
Knock-offs • Conversions • Custom Work • Wheel Care Products

CALL US TOLL FREE! **800.WIRE WHEEL** (800.947.3943) • [bwwsales@pacbell.net](mailto:bwwsales@pacbell.net)

**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 dessert 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.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Santa Claus is Coming to Town  
 December 1, 2007  
 La Notte Restaurant  
 East Windsor Industrial Park  
 17 Thompson Road  
 East Windsor, Connecticut

\$28 per person  
 6 PM Cocktails  
 7 PM Dinner  
 CASH BAR

RSVP by November 24, 2007  
 Please send check  
 Betty Bender  
 117 Patricia Ave  
 Dalton, MA 01226-2046  
 Phone 418-684-3934  
 Don't Forget your \$10 Grab bag  
 Gift for the Yankee Swap

**PLEASE  
 SIGN UP  
 AS SOON  
 AS  
 POSSIBLE.**



Directions to Restaurant

91 North or South to Exit 44  
 Right at end of ramp  
 Left at 2nd light into the industrial park  
 (by the Dunkin Donuts on the left)  
 The restaurant is on the left up the hill 1/2 mile

Motel

Holiday Inn Express  
 260 Main Street  
 East Windsor, CT  
 860-627-6585  
 (\$75 per night)  
 Call to make your own reservations by Nov 1  
 Free shuttle service to and from the restaurant

MENU

Appetizers  
 Cheese and Crackers, Veg. Platter with dip  
 Stuffed Mushrooms, Chicken Fingers, Fried Mozzarella

Buffet  
 Garden Salad, Zinfandel Vinaigrette Ranch  
 Chicken Francaise, London Broil, Stuffed Sole, Ziti prima Vera  
 Oven Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans Almandine  
 Dessert  
 Apple Crisp topped with Vanilla Ice Cream



**Hinsdale Meet**

August 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 A.M. temperature 58 degrees in Pittstown N.Y. As two very bundled up Austin Healey enthusiasts (do we really own a top?), made their way to the lake front cottage of Tom and Jean Andrews. It was a gorgeous sunny, white puffy cloud day. Tom and Jean were treating us to a wonderful lake side breakfast before our ride through the Berkshires. As our caravan of 100's 100/6's and sport convertibles left the lake, you

couldn't help but notice people on the street looking at our slick cars



and as one fellow yelled to Pam & me " I'm very jealous". We stopped for a break at a couple of village general stores and then on the to a Hinsdale haunt by the name of Ozzies, for a pub grub lunch. There was a minor engine stoppage due to a faulty distributor rotor (remember to carry spares) which was quickly diagnosed and replaced. After lunch some of us had to leave the group, but the others went back to the cottage for dessert, boat rides and of course complimentary margaritas. The tour and the day was again superb only because of the hospitality of Tom and Jean and the other members of the group that included, Don & Carole Paye, Bob & Betty Bender, Robert & Donna Scala, Andy & Pat Plue, David & Virginia Maxwell, Roy Balthazard, Jerry Paquette, John Wood and yours truly.....



*Denny & Pam Broughel.*



**TARGA NEWFOUNDLAND**

Remember Summit 2006 in Glens Falls, NY? Then you'll remember the tech session presented AHX12 car by Mike Salter. Well, you'll be happy to know that his car took first in class in the 2007 Targa Newfoundland. Targa Newfoundland is the only event of its kind held in North America. It forms a 2200 km long, high quality automotive adventure. It is held over a seven-day period in September of each year on the paved roads of the eastern and central parts of the island of Newfoundland. Congratulations to Driver Michael Salter and Co-Driver Michael Oritt for their class win. The Salter-Oritt team also received the "Spirit of Targa" award. This award is presented by Newfoundland International Motorsports to the entry that, in the opinion of the rest of the competitors, best represents the Spirit of Targa Newfoundland. The "Spirit of Targa" is defined as the entry that has undergone the most trials and tribulations to get to or to remain in the competition. Among other "trials", they broke an axle half-shaft midway through one of the stages. They had a replacement shipped in but it had to be stretched to fit properly...*whazzup with that???* I'm sure you'll read more about this adventure in a future issue of the *Healey Marque*. *Jim Smith*



**AHX12 ...Salter and Oritt**

## The British Invasion

The weather was nice as we headed up into Vermont to attend the British Invasion car show. Our intent was to get together and have a good time (as usual) but also to try to sell more of our regalia which was left over from Conclave. Yes the weather was nice...but that was about to change.



Saturday morning we woke to a torrential downpour. Despite the fact that the field was turned into a quagmire, there was a good showing of quality iron. It was really interesting watching all the cars trying to navigate the mud....all except for the Land Rovers that is. They all seemed to go out of their way to find every bog they could, just to prove they could make it through.

We did well selling regalia and getting the interest of potential new members. We also did quite well in the show. Jan Kastberg took 1<sup>st</sup> with her beautiful Jensen Healey. George Miller took 1<sup>st</sup>, I managed 2<sup>nd</sup> and Gerry Paquette took 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 100 Class. Jim Begin took 1<sup>st</sup> and Bill Berg took 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Roadster Class, and Jim Begin took "Best Red Car" with his beautiful roadster that has more than the legal amount of stainless steel on board....what a master he is. Don't tell him this reporter said that.



The next morning (following an evening of spirited ping-pong) we woke to clear skies and chilly temperatures. We had the most beautiful ride home down Route 100. That's the beauty of these cars....the fun doesn't end until you shut the engine off!

We only had one tech session on the way home, but it wasn't a show stopper. One of the cars lost the bolt on the generator adjuster. Incidentally, that makes all kinds of funny noises. Other than that, it was a wonderful time. I hope more of you folks decide to join us next year!



*Cub Reporter - Bob*

### 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) 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.







### **Show of Dreams Car Show**

What could be better than a perfect fall day? A perfect fall day spent with 200 British Cars. Not to mention some good friends and interesting people. That's what we all found as the day progressed at the British Cars of New Hampshire "Show of Dreams Car Show" held at the Budweiser Plant in Merrimack, NH last Saturday.

The weather was perfect for a car show. A cool, crisp morning to run you LBC from home to the show location – even better if you could caravan with some other LBCs. Warming temperatures and glorious sunshine for the hours of the show and cooling in the afternoon for the run home. Perfect!

The show itself was well attended and offered a variety of British Cars to dream and drool over. There were some fabulous MGPBs, Jaguars, Triumph Mayflowers, Rovers, Lotus, Rileys, etc., etc. Hordes of MGBs and Triumphs and the Healey Marque was represented by twenty-one big Healeys and two Sprites. Many, but not all, of the Healeys were owned and presented by members of AHCA. Since the featured Marque this year was Austin Healey, it was rewarding to see so many of our members turn out for this event.

And speaking of rewards, BCNH has an unusual twist on participation. The club with the most members present at the show is awarded a cash prize of \$100. With so many of our members turning out, AHCA-NE was the winner of this year's participation award.

The purpose of this show is to raise money for the "High Hopes Foundation of New Hampshire". This group endeavors to make life a little happier for critically ill children by making it possible for these kids to do something beyond their means through the donations collected. After a quick poll of the AHCA members we contributed our prize back to the "High Hopes Foundation of New Hampshire".

A perfect way to end the day.

*Bob Abbott*



### **Vintage festival at Lime Rock Park**

The annual Austin Healey club event at LRP was a wonderful success and was probably the best weather weekend of the entire summer. There were eleven club members staying for the entire weekend in tents and campers. We also had some day trippers who stopped to say hi. This year every one was assigned a meal, and I must say the food was great. On Saturday all the Austin-Healeys went for three parade laps. Even though you weren't racing, the on track experience was still very exhilarating.

Jim Smith, aka Blue Chip Racing, and his Healey blue 100 racer # 102, and editor of this newsletter had a catastrophic engine failure while on his time trial race. When he returned to his staging area we were there to help with anything he needed. In the span of two and a half hours we had taken the engine apart, changed heads, adjusted the valves and sent him on his way in time for him to race. The problem was that an intake valve seized and as you can see from the pictures hammered a perfect circle in the head of the #2 piston. Jim had also bent a push rod, and I don't know how or who straightened it, but he was able to race. [it was the magician, Peter Genovese]

We had our normal cast of characters at this event, Don Paye, Bob Bender, Paul Dunnell and his daughter Michelle, Jon & Janet Kastburg, Jerry Paquette, Steve Bell, Roy Balthazard, Patrick O'Sullivan (Charlie Krut's son in law) and 3 year old son, Sean and yours truly.

*Dennis Broughel*

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

I must take this opportunity to thank all of the folks who came to my rescue at Lime Rock. The Saturday afternoon race was particularly important to me because wife Elaine, daughter Linda, and granddaughters Julia and Jenny were there to watch grandpa race. My back was ailing and I could do no physical work myself so the guys all pitched in and changed the cylinder head while I watched. The last few minutes before the race were quite hectic. After the head was installed, torqued, and valves adjusted, it should have been ready to go, but it just would not start. The experts were scurrying, doing all the obvious checks, looking for spark and fuel where it was supposed to be but the old lump just would not respond. Well about 10 minutes before race time, I got into my racing suit and donned my helmet, with the full confidence that my impromptu crew would somehow get her running. Sure enough, as I was lacing my tinks, I heard that familiar sound of the old unmuffled tractor engine come to life, accompanied by a big cheer from my crew and the dozen or so onlookers who had gathered. My back suddenly stopped hurting and I hurled myself into the driver's seat and was off to the pre-grid just in time. Starting from the back of the pack I worked my way up to mid-pack after a few laps.... the car ran perfectly and I finished in 11th place. I have been doing this Vintage Racing stuff for 12 years with a podium finish now and then but I must say that I never felt such satisfaction as I did on this day ....Family and Friends are what its all about. Thanks, guys..... *Jim Smith*





**TECH TIP** Bonnet installation on Healey 100

You Hundred owners....have you ever struggled with the installation of the bonnet? The problem is getting the hinge bolts in the right position as you tighten them so that it closes and opens without scraping, and is positioned properly when closed. This usually involves several trial-and-error attempts, all the time trying not to scratch the paint as you close it into an uncertain position many times, re-loosening and tightening each time....very frustrating.

Try this next time:

With a blanket across the front of the bonnet aperture, attach the bonnet to the hinges with the proper hardware with the nuts on the outside, just barely finger tight. Attach a small vice-grip pliers to one of the bolt heads on each side (or other suitable means to keep the bolts from turning....another way is a homemade locking tab under both bolt heads on each side). Carefully close the bonnet, pulling the blanket out when its almost closed. Since the hinge bolts are loose, you can now position the bonnet to the proper position fore and aft, and up and down. I use wood shims to urge it into position and keep it in position. Now with the front wheels off, you can reach the nuts with a 1/4" drive 7/16" (or proper size Whitworth) socket on a loooooong extension ....need at least two together. A wobble nose extension works best, but I have used standard ones. You'll need a flashlight, and it takes a little patience. The socket on a standard extension will approach the nuts at an angle, so you won't get them real tight, but tight enough that they will stay in place whilst you carefully re-open the bonnet (put the blanket back in place just in case). Then tighten them the rest of the way.

Sure beats the seven iteration trial and error method.

*Jim Smith*



**Mystery Photo**

Can you identify anyone in this photo? Don't forget the kid in shorts and shades in the background. Send me an email with their names. [bluechipracing@snet.net](mailto:bluechipracing@snet.net) Whoever gets the most correct will win a special prize. Answer in next month's *New England News*.