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Healey Exhaust Notes

*The official newsletter of the New England Region
of the Austin-Healey Club of America*

*Serving the following areas -
NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, NH, ME & Northern NJ*

Presidents Message

As I write my first President's letter I have to reflect on my almost 23 years of membership in the Austin Healey Club of New England. I first joined the club in the spring of 1991 after acquiring a 1962 BJ7. My quest for a Healey started the year before when I decided that a 7 year hiatus without a British Sports car was far too long. Why a Healey you might ask when I previously owned 3 Morgan's? Because it was a "4 seater" I told my wife and it would be a "family sports car" for us and our two young daughters to enjoy. She agreed, much to my delight, so my search began.

I spent months traveling across ME, NH, VT, MA and RI looking at various Healey's that were for sale. Most were badly in need of restoration even though they were advertised as "drivers". I came close to buying a restored BT7 when the owner offered to deliver it to my house on Christmas Eve if I would do the deal immediately. What a nice Christmas present I thought! However, after owning those Morgan's with side curtains that always seemed to leak and were a problem to store in a car without a proper "boot", I declined the deal and continued my quest for a Healey with roll up windows. A few months later I came across a BJ7 that was under restoration and immediately struck a deal with the restorer to finish the body work and rolling chassis and then I would take it over from there.

Soon after acquiring my Healey I joined the club and attended my first "new comers" meet at Paul and Dale Dunnell's house in NH and met many club members who made me feel welcome from the very beginning. Many of those members I meet that first day are still active in the club and have become good friends. While we think the club is all about the cars, it is really about the great folks who own and drive these wonder cars that make the club what it is.

Once my car was on the road I started to attend an event or two each year, often with my two young daughters. My first Conclave was Montebello in 1995 which I attended with my 11 year daughter Becky. She was my navigator during the rally and despite a few wrong turns we finished far from last place. I recall another meet at a member's lake side home where my youngest daughter Mandy learned how to water ski. And how could I forget the first Summit event in Jackson, NH! I could go on and on about all the fantastic events I have attended and many of the great people I have met in my 23 years being a member of the club.

Fast forward 23 years and I now find myself the President of the club. My hope is to give back to the club during the next three for all the great times being a member of this club has rewarded me and my family. I encourage all members to join in on at least one event this year so you too can enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow Healey club members.

And finally, I would like to congratulate both Jud Perkins on his election as the new Vice President and Peter Sturtevant as the new Secretary of the club. I look forward to working with them and other members during the next three years.

Onward, Bob Britton

Austin Healey Club of New England

2014 Calendar of Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Sat. 2/15/14	Planning Meeting*	T J O'Brien's 407 Main St Sturbridge, MA	Bob Britton 603-381-3158 healeybj7@hotmail.com
Sat. 3/15/14	Planning Meeting*	T J Obrien's	Bob Britton
T B D	Tech. session	Motorclub Automotive 244 N. Main St Raynham, MA	Peter Sturtevant Healeybn4@comcast.net 774-284-1212
Fri/Sat/Sun May 16-18	Carlisle Import & Kit	Carlisle Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA	Denny Brouglet brougheldp@gmail.com 518-858-8877
Sat/Sun	MMSCC Meet	Camden, ME	Jim Lea clocks@midcoast.com 270-542-3025
Sun. June 8	British by the Sea	Harkness St. Park Waterford, CT	Ted Stanton healey@snet.net
June 15-20	AHCA Conclave	The Homestead Hotsprings, VA	Bob Britton healeybj7@hotmail.com
July 26th Sat.	Healeys on the Green	Mystic Seaport Mystic, CT	George Greider ggreider@gmail.com
Aug. T B A	Sergio Franchi concert	Stonington, CT	Ted Stanton healey@snet.net
Aug 2nd	Vintage Race Celebration	NHMS Loudon, NH	Ed Collins ed3paula@aol.com

2014 calendar of events continued on page 3

9/6	Quabbin Reservoir tour	Belchertown, MA	Roy Blathazard roybady34@yahoo.com 413-687-8178
9/14	Simsbury Fly In	Simsbury airport Simsbury, CT	Deb Katz DLKATZ_@hotmail.com
9/19-20-21	British Invasion	Stowe Event Field Weeks Hill road Stowe, VT	Bob Britton healeybj7@hotmail.com 603-381-3158
Sept/Oct	Applecrest Farm Tour	Applecrest Farm New Hampton, NH	Nick Zarkades zdesign@comcast.net 978-922-3956
Oct. 18th	Essex	Essex Tour Essex, CT	Jud Perkins judperk@comcast.net 860-204-9168
12/6*	AHC-NE Christmas Party	The Publick House Sturbridge, MA	Len Bach summitm9@aol.com 860-875-8855

- These dates for the planning meetings need to be confirmed.
- Planning meetings run 10 am to noon lunch is available after the meeting
- Events in BOLD type are AHC of New England events.

Editor's notes:

Please take a moment and review the front page or page 7. We have several new club officers including our new president Bob Britton, Vice president Jud Perkins, secretary Pete Sturtevant, area coordinator for CT/NY Rudi Markl, and the Area coordinator for Maine is Bill Hayes.

The CALLENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2014 is a work in progress. More events will be added and dates may change. If you have an idea for an event or would like to host an event please let Bob Britton or Jud Perkins know.

We have added a new column to the newsletter where we profile a member. This issue get to know our new Vice President Jud Perkins.

Finally, for those of you like me who struggle to read the phone numbers and e mail addresses of club officers and "worker bees" on the front page Carl Carvell printed a full size page with that very information.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dsj97yLQsBA> Thanks to member Duane Walzer for sending this you tube link. It is about Donald Healey and his car company. ed.

Annual Christmas Party December 7, 2013 Public House in Sturbridge, MA

The Inn was magnificent with decorations through out for admiration by the 43 members of the New England Austin Healey Club. The weather was good and the food was beautifully presented and delicious. In-coming president Bob Britton presented past president Pete Stuart with a plaque in appreciation for his outstanding leadership these past 3 years.

The annual "Yankee Swap" was led this year by Santa's helper Steve Bell with his recording assistant elf Carl Carvell! As stated before there should have been an admission charge for this part of the evening. Everybody absolutely enjoyed themselves. Len Bach



Past president Pete & Cindy



Carl & Amy Carvell



Len & Carylon Bach



Bob Britton & Linda Hakala

Judy & Ted Stanton



"Santa" Steve Bell "Elf" Carl Carvell



Paul Dunnell, Bill & Diane Connor



Jud Perkins and Pat Duncan



The Austin Healey Club of New England selects the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) as its 2014 charity.

At our most recent Club Meeting, Bob Britton proposed that the Austin Healey Club of New England select a charity to support each year and that some of the proceeds from Club events go to the charity. It was suggested that the charity be the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and Club members in attendance voted unanimously the JDRF as the club's charity to support for 2014. At the Christmas party in December \$110 was raised for a charitable contribution and this amount will be the seed money for additional fund raising efforts of the club for the JDRF in 2014. At the end of the year club officials will make a contribution for all the monies raised during 2014 to this very worthy cause.

Juvenile Diabetes (Type 1) is a very different disease from the more common Adult Onset Diabetes (Type 2). Although it can be contracted as an adult, Juvenile Diabetes most commonly strikes children. Type 2 diabetes can often be treated with diet or oral insulin, but with Childhood Diabetes the child's pancreas stops making any insulin and they are on an insulin regime for life. Typically children will need to test their blood several times a day and give themselves insulin injections three or more times a day. A common misconception is that insulin is a cure, but in fact it allows management of the disease and postpones the long-term effects of diabetes which often impacts vision, the kidneys, the extremities and other organs and often leads to premature death.

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation funds research towards finding a cure. Current research is focusing on the ability to transplant pancreas's or pancreatic cells and developing an artificial pancreas through sensors implanted to measure blood sugar levels on a continuous basis and mating this with an insulin pump to simulate the pancreas. The organization has an A rating from the American Institute of Philanthropy. Of the foundations donations over 80% goes to research with only 7% used for administration; the balance is for fundraising.

We look forward to your support of our Official 2014 Charity. If you have an idea on how the club can raise money during the year for the JDRF please contact Vice President Jud Perkins.

The Carlisle import & kit car nationals will be May 16 to 18 2014. We usually arrive on that Wednesday so we can be ready to set up at the fairgrounds bright and early on Thursday and hunt for the real bargains the day before the show starts. We always have a tremendous time, and also get rid of some of our old parts. Some of us even find new parts to bring home. We always stay at the Motel 6 at Carlisle, Its clean and very reasonable. Our rooms are always together. We normally make our reservations in March or April, and every one will make their own reservations. The rooms have 2 queen size beds and having a room mate makes it even cheaper. Denny Broughel 518-858-8877 brougheldp@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/AHCAmembers/?fref=ts>

www.ahca-newengland.com

Meet Jud Perkins V P AHCA NE



My interest in sports cars began in high school with a girlfriend who had a TR-3, which before we became a high school item she drove into the back of a wrecker. Have you ever seen a flat front TR-3? After this her father got her something a little more substantial, which she also wrecked. In college a prospective new fraternity member drove up in a 100-6 with a 383 cubic inch Pontiac tri-power V-8 under the hood. Not a bump, not a wrinkle, it looked completely stock. Legend has it that he had to take the fender panels off to change spark plugs. Well I put the full court press on him to join good old TKE and he just happened to end up as my little brother. As you might imagine in such an exotic configuration reliability was somewhat of an issue. I only rode in the car once. He lifted the front end off the ground when he started in first gear, same with a shift into second. Needless to say I was impressed. He casually mentioned that the performance was even better when he had the other two carburetors hooked up. With that I was hooked on Healey's.

I bought my first BJ-8, an old English White at the end of my junior year in college for \$3,600 and the fun began. Yes, you can double date in a Healey (seems we were more flexible then), yes you can race sports cars in new housing developments in the snow to practice your drifting technique. Probably the highlight was my senior year trip with a buddy to Ft. Lauderdale for Spring vacation. We left the car in Ft. Lauderdale for service, went to Nassau for the week and upon our return my buddy and I had \$6.00 and a Shell oil credit card between us. The bill for the service was \$21.00. When I offered to pay by check (all I had) the dealer said he'd only accept it if I left my skin diving watch with him until the check cleared. He gave the check and the watch to his secretary Miss Smiles-A-Lot. Seems her boyfriend must have been a skin diver because it took four months to get the watch back. On the way back to Ohio State we stopped in Sebring for the 12 hours and cheered Jim Hall and the Chaparral to victory. Note the photo of us trackside.

I keep the car until 1971 when I moved from California to Florida with Walt Disney World. It had 125,000 miles on it when I sold it for what I thought was the great sum of \$1,000. If I'd only put it on blocks and kept it, on a percentage basis probably would have been my best investment ever.

For the next 35 years I lamented selling my Healey and when fates had me living in Sacramento, California I decided to take the plunge. Went on Ebay and purchased my current 1965 BJ-8 in 2005. I picked it up in Los Angeles. When I stopped in Fresno for gas on the way home and had to put two quarts of oil in, sure wished I'd done a compression check. However, other than the little problem of filling the oil and checking the gas, it ran great and provided lots of joy. While in California I joined the Golden Gate Healey Club and participated in many events. One treat as fates had it the college pal that I had gone to Sebring with was living in the area and we recreated with my new car the picture of us taken at the Sebring race in 1965 (see the attached photo).

Subsequently I took a job in Naples, Florida and shipped the car there where I joined the Southwest Florida British Car Club. When I accepted a position with Mohegan Sun I took the plunge and shipped the car to Dave Nock of British Car Specialists and had a complete rebuilt of the engine, wiring, etc. Job duties kept my very busy until I retired. Upon retirement I joined our Club and have been participating in events ever since.

Probably my greatest thrill was taking Formula 1 driver Max Chilton around the track for a lap this past June. I spent most of my career in professional sports and entertainment and thought I'd seen it all, but nothing matched the thrill of pulling up to the start-finish line, picking Max up and doing a lap with the 100,000 plus in attendance cheering us. It was such a thrill that I am going to do it again next year. We left the car with Roger Hamel and came back for Conclave Charlevoix and a driving tour through the Maritimes. Pat and I put 3,500 miles on the car and had a ball in Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Maine on the way home.

This winter it's getting a new interior and Dunnell rear end. Can't wait to get the car back and start Club events, Formula 1 and Conclave again. It was an honor when Peter asked me to join the committee for Enclave 2015 and Bob asked me to become Vice President. Happy Healey to all. [Jud](#).

Austin Healey Club of New England

Club Officers

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LEMPERT 3: 54 REAR - END GEARS ARE COMING TO AN END !

I've been talking to Dan Lempert recently and have purchased the remaining 12 sets of 3:54 gears that he has for sale. The price to purchase the gears and have them installed will remain at \$1200.00 until they're gone. (some suppliers are charging \$1295.00 just for the gears!) A deposit of \$ 500.00 will hold a set for you until you're ready to have them installed.

Any questions call Paul Dunnell @ 413 - 339 - 0102 or e-mail to austin3000@verizon.net Feel free to ask for references.

Also I'd like to add a little " tech tip"

Of the seventeen cars that I've changed the gears in I'm finding that at least half of them are running on the same gear oil that " Donald" put in there fifty years ago! I realize that the rear end almost never gives us any problems so we seem to ignore it. I've found a couple with less than a cup of oil in them, and two that I had to push a screwdriver up though the drain hole to get the sludge to ooze out! Maybe once every three years we could change the 80 - 90 weight oil in the neglected rear end that we can't do without!



**When you need help
with your Healey...**

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with you. A local shop with 2 decades of Healey experience.
Transportation available in an enclosed trailer.

Call Bob at 603-425-3333 or 978-238-8810



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