

October 2014



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President's Letter

September was a busy month for Austin Healey club members with 3 weekends of events to attend. Linda and I were fortunate to participate in two of the events.

First up was Roy and Betty Balthazard's 1st Annual Lawnmower Gymkhana. Now who would have ever thought that "racing" a John Deere lawn tractor around an obstacle course on a lawn would be so much fun? Not only was this fun, but the competition turned out to be very competitive with some spirited "driving" and other shenanigans going on by participants to insure a high place finish. Roy had prizes galore from cleaning out his Healey parts bin to pass out to many of the top finishers.

Area Coordinator Rudi Markl had a few members join him at the Coffee and Carburetor show in New Canaan, CT. Jud Perkins and friend Pat Duncan, who has lived in the area for years attended, and enjoyed the tour after the show on roads she had never been on before.

The next weekend was the Simsbury Fly-In and Car show. While only a handful of club members attended on this cool day the report was the show was outstanding and hopefully more club members will venture out to the show next year. What could be better than both classic cars and airplanes?

On the 3rd weekend of September the 24th Annual British Invasion was held in Stowe, VT. I am very partial to this show as I have participated in every British Invasion since 1992, only missing the first year. This year we had a good turnout of club members, some who took home awards for their cars. Robert Scalla won 1st in the Concours d' Elegance judging with his pristine BJ8 and Bob Abbott and Dave Altman took 2nd with their freshly restored MKII BN7. New members Don and Kathi Margeson took 1st in the popularity judging Convertible Class with their BJ8 and Bob and Betty Bender took a 2nd in the 100 Class. Congratulations to all and any others who I might have missed.

If you missed these events there is still time to attend a few more events in October before it is time to put your Healey away for the winter. By the time you get this newsletter Summit 2014 will be underway. If you are one of the fortunate 42 registrants you will no doubt have a great time. Steve and his group of volunteers have put together a fantastic schedule of events over the course of 4 days.

Immediately after Summit there is the Applecrest Tour to New Hampton, NH on Sunday, October 5th. And to finish up the season there will be two great foliage tours in CT. The first is on Oct 18th in Essex where you will not only get to enjoy driving your Healey but will also have the opportunity to enjoy a train and boat ride along the CT River. The final driving event of the year will be a scenic driving tour in the Greenwich area on the 25th. Last call! Read more about these events in the newsletter.

See you on the road,
Bob

Austin Healey Club of New England

2014 Calendar of Events

10/1/2014

Events in **BOLD** are AHC of New England events

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>EVENT/TIME</u> | <u>LOCA- TION</u> | <u>CONTACT</u> |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| Wed- Sun Oct 1-5 | Summit 2014 | Pilgram Sands Mo- Plymouth, MA | Steve Bell scbell1comcast.net 508-947-6499 |
| Sun. Oct 5 | Applecrest Farm Tour | Applecrest Farm New Hampton, NH | Nick Zarkades zdesign@comcast.net 978-922-3956 |
| Fri- Sun Oct 10-12 | British Legend Week- | Sandwich, MA | www.CapeCodBritishCarClub.org |
| Sat. Oct | Fall Foliage Tour | Essex, Ct | Jud Perkins jud- 860-204-9168 |
| Sat. Oct Rain Date Sun 10/26 | Greewich CT Foliage | Greenwich, CT | Rudi Markl rmarkl@optonline.net - |
| Sat. Dec 6 | AHC-NE Christmas Party | Pickwick House Sturbridge, MA | Len Bach summitm9@aol.com 860-875-8855 |

The Quabbin Ride September 6, 2014

The following is the write up about our Quabbin Tour/ Tractor race meet held on Sept. 7th. The author is Shaughn O'Sullivan the 10 year old grandson of Charlie and Debbie Krut. A definite candidate for a Future "50" award. Please post in your next newsletter. Thanks, Roy and Betty

It was a beautiful cool morning at Roy and Betty B..... (Ballhazards) house. Okay so now you know that I am related to the late Charlie Krut. I am his grandson Shaughn. It just so happened to be on my grampys eighth year anniversary weekend that we got to take out the "Pickle Barrel", his two tone green BJ-8 . We were the only car there that wasn't red...

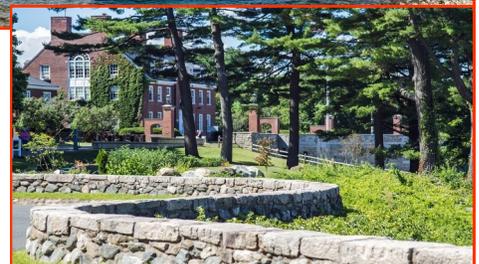
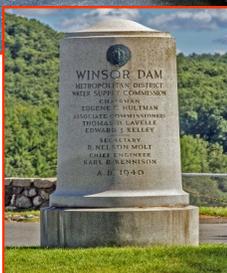
It was a great day. We drove out to the Quabbin Reservoir. Dad and I learned so much. Did you know that they flooded four towns to create the reservoir? Also we climbed the tower and could see from Hartford, Ct. all the way to Springfield, MA. What a view !

We Healey'd back to Roy and Betty's home and enjoyed a meal cooked by Betty and her daughters. It was delicious. A big thank you to them for all their work...

Roy set up a tractor gymkana!!!! yes a tractor gymkana...we all had a blast racing around his obstacle course. Roy was the only one who knocked the bucket of water off of the ladder onto himself. I had nothing to do with the ladder changing location! :).

Thank you for all your hospitality and for the lasting memories. I know why mom always refers to the Healey club as her family. I can't wait to see you all again.

Shaughn O'Sullivan



More pictures from Quabbin (many thanks to Martha Chretien for these great pictures)



Important Summit update from Steve Bell

Attention Club Members! Since our first posting in July of the SUMMIT 2014, "Treasure By The Sea" in Plymouth, MA, we have already received over twenty registrations. I visited the hotel today to double check on who has reserved their rooms and I find that there are ONLY 14 rooms left for October 1-5. These rooms are being held aside for our club until AUGUST 15th, when they will be released to the general public. So, DON'T DELAY! Remember, we are receiving a special rate that you will not get from other area hotels.

Susan and I have finished the Cranberry Rally route and there will be some special highlights along the way that many of you will enjoy. Because it is harvest time for the cranberry growers, we will be able to customize the route so that you can see how bogs are harvested. On Friday, you will visit Flax Pond Bogs where you can see an original, wooden, cranberry sorter in use, ask questions about harvesting and sample and purchase some unique cranberry products. The rally will take you past Edaville Railroad, now a local theme park, but was once, just, a narrow-gauge railroad built by original owner Ellis D. Atwood. The railroad was used to transport the cranberry harvest from his bogs to the trucking terminal. Part of the rally will take us past Factory Five Racing in Wareham, where we hope to have someone on hand to give you a short tour if you would like. But that is still pending. There will be an exciting trip along Ancient Way, a winding, twisting, back road where Healeys can thrive! We also cross over the Cape Cod Canal, with a beautiful view on the Sagamore Bridge, for lunch at the Sagamore Inn before returning back to the hotel or taking in other selected attractions in the area.

For those of you arriving by 11AM Thursday morning, The "Treasure Hunt" is on! The hunt begins at the historic Jenny Grist Mill, walking along Town Brook Park, then right through the center of town with all of the shops and attractions the tourists love! You will be searching for items on the treasure map which can be turned into "gold dabloons" and the most successful treasure hunters will win THE PRIZE! A great low key walking rally, stopping along the way for lunch, shopping or just visiting the many local attractions.

And don't forget the car show on Saturday at the waterfront in Pilgrim Memorial Park, right next to "the Rock" and the Mayflower II. It just doesn't get any better. The tourists will get to vote for their favorite cars making it a true popular car show. Bob Britton is taking on the Valve Cover Races, so get yours tuned up and ready to go. A Healey car parade on the way to dinner on the docks, breakfast overlooking the beach, and the opportunity to be with good friends, including our Canadian Healey buddies. Don't forget to bring your bathing suit for the indoor pool, enjoy a communal pizza party, hospitality night and entertainment in our hotel each night! Wow!

Costs are down with off-season rates available to us. DON'T DELAY. The only bad news is that all of the ocean view rooms have been reserved. But that doesn't mean you will miss out on the fun, the history, the challenges and the friendship. Reserve your room now and send in your registration form ASAP! See you in America's HOMETOWN - Plymouth, "The Treasure By The Sea".

Steve B

Me, my Healey, and The British Invasion, 2014 by Bob Scalla

I bought my beautiful Colorado red/red interior, '64 phase 1 3000 Mark III, 27 years ago. It had only 18k miles (now at 48k). It was a completely original car at that that time. I had it Concours Judged by the Austin Healey Club in both 1987 and 1991 and it was awarded Silver Certification twice. The judges loved it. Over the years my first goal was to keep it. Next was to turn it into the good, reliable driver that it now is. I have competed in Popular shows over the years, but rarely won with the dull and cracked paint and rust spots around the trunk hinges, etc.

Last year was the first year at The British Invasion with NEW paint and general sprucing up. (carpet, rubber trim, etc.) My efforts paid off in the Popular judging with a First in Class BJ8 win! I was thrilled. This year I decided to go for their Concours competition.

This forced me to complete all the details that I was conveniently ignoring. I appreciated the challenge. By the time I left CT to drive up there, I felt like I was driving the car that I always imagined it could be: exciting, like a new car, shiny, smooth and powerful. Life is good.

On a Friday morning I headed to Vermont with the top up. The weather was pretty chilly, but sunny and dry. That was important as I had just spent the last several weeks cleaning and detailing the interior, engine compartment, the wheel wells, the underneath, the exhaust system, and the painted wire wheels. It was also supposed to be dry on Saturday for the Popular Show and the Concours Judging. After the judging I could get it dirty, but not until then.

Saturday was dry, completely clouded and chilly again. I wore my leather jacket most of the day. It was a great day for a car show. Cars photographed nicely. I stayed by my Healey until all 4 teams of Judges had completed their judging. I was then free to go and look at the hundreds (600?) of other fantastic British cars and talk to their owners. What fun! I've seen a lot of MGs and Triumphs, etc, but I love to see the odd birds of which there are many at an event like this. There were old Rovers, Alvas, TVRs, odd Lotus es (Loti?), Daimlers and lots of wonderful Singers, which were featured this year. There was a '33 English Ford 2 door sedan that I loved. It looked like a smaller USA Ford but prettier, and was oozing with patina. I really enjoyed seeing and sitting in Paul Dunnel's new V8 Healey.

Being in Concours is cool. At the Show, they display your car in a special area with lots of room between cars. The other cars around you are the Best at the Show, this year 28 in all. My direct competition was the Austin Healey 3000s. We were three, a Mark I, II and III. Both the blue/white car and the white/red car were excellent cars. My original rocker panels, doors and fenders fit so well that the car had integrity that is hard to achieve on a re-done car. I had a lot of confidence at this point. Awards were announced about 2:30 and YES, First Place Concours was mine!!

Sunday was the sunny warm day that we all wanted. The Competition of Colors was going on, as well as the Blind-folded Gymkhana and other fun stuff. I had to leave about noon to drive the 4 or 5 hours home. Bob Britton and I drove the fabulous Rt 100 south together for a while in our pair of red 3000s, top down. I did have to put the top up later as it rained about half way home. That didn't spoil the ride a bit.

My wife Donna and I have been Members of AHCA for 32 years. Thanks Austin Healey Club Members for your support and friendship over the years. Thanks Bob and Linda for your support at this Event.



British Invasion 2014 "Snaps"



AHCA NE members Paul, Dale, Bob & Denny



Paul Dunnell's Nasty Boy



Bob Scalla's 3000 1st. in concours judging.

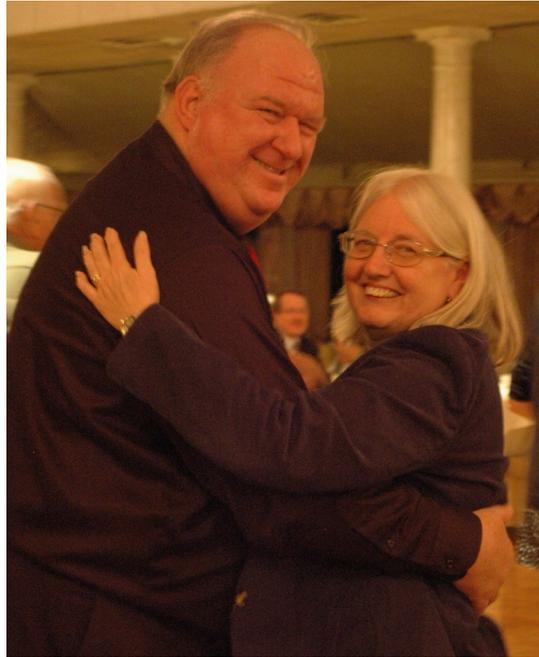


Bob Abbott & Dave Altman 2nd in Con-
cours judging

Steve & Sue Bell Middleboro, MA

Member Profile

Austin Healey Club of America's first name in Sprites



My Austin Healey story starts when I was nineteen years old, taking a year off from school before going to college. Working at a good job, with overtime available, gave me some spending money and so it was that I bought my FIRST Bugeye Sprite. That was in 1969. The car was a 1959 version that had seen many better days. I bought the car from Globe Motors in Bridgewater for \$100 and before I could drive it home I had to put another \$100 into a complete brake job! It was a mess! The headlights blinked on and off as I drove it home, closely following a friend in a Dodge so that I wouldn't get pulled over! No brake lights, no directionals and a SINGLE barreled carb, probably from a Morris Minor... but what did I know then! Of course things got repaired, but not the correct way, as parts were just not readily available for a ten year old throw-away car.

The following winter, while driving it to college, the engine which never ran well on four cylinders due, to the carb setup, decided to give up the ghost and blew a hole in the #4 cylinder. As smoke and fumes belched into the car, I pulled to the side of the busy road and leaped out! There it sat running very roughly on three cylinders. End of story, I thought. I sold it for \$25!

Fast forward twenty-two years. Sue and I had been married for twenty years. We had two children, a daughter Alison and a son, Greg. We had been living in Middleboro for eleven years, I was driving about 25 miles of back roads each way to go to work as a band director in the town of Rockland, MA. At the time, with both of our children in school, Sue was working as a teller at Middleboro Trust Company, with a very short commute!

It was a bright, sunny Saturday in the Spring of 1991 when I got the phone call that changed everything! An adult friend, from my days in Abington, called to say he had something in his backyard that had my name all over it. Clay Stone had ridden in my Sprite many years ago, he then bought one, drove it, his kids drove it and then when it was truly exhausted, it was parked in his backyard for about ten years sitting under a tarp when I got the call.

That, of course, was the year of the Sturbridge Conclave and when people heard I had bought an Austin Healey (for the price of a cup of coffee) I was immediately directed to Domenic Falconeiri, who also lived in Middleboro. It didn't take long for us to "catch on" and fairly soon we were organizing Healey events in our neck of the woods. Too many stories there to tell right now!

I must say that Sue took to the Healey right away. She was not "in the picture" when I had owned my first, so she really didn't know what we were getting into. But she enjoyed going for the rides and meeting the Healey people, so we were a team! It seems, that in the end, we both really enjoy the touring aspect. We love the rallies, looking forward to locking wits with Bob and Betty Bender. I like to run the gymkhanas and we certainly both like to travel.

Suffice to say that since that phone call we have been to 8 Conclaves, a few Encounters, most of the Summits and plenty of local events over the past twenty three years. Our Sprite (not the one I claimed in 1991) has been in 18 States, 6 Provinces and fourteen countries. We have also travelled to Australia to visit with Sprite friends, we have hosted international Sprite guests in Middleboro as well as in Florida. I have stayed with Bic and Mary Healey at their home in Perranporth and I have been a back-seat "hanger-on" as Bic raced his SKODA over the small, back roads of Cornwall to get home in time for Mary's dinner! Or else!

We both have enjoyed the travel, the remembered stories but most importantly, the people. It may have started with the cars but in the end, it is really about the people. We do enjoy planning events, several trips to the Maritimes, a trip across the Great Lakes to a Michigan Conclave as well as a very memorable 8 week tour of Europe where local club members Bill and Mary Lou McMahon and Skip and Marilyn Saunders joined us for a summer to remember in our 2001 European Odyssey.

That all came about as we were looking for some special way to celebrate our 30th anniversary.

So what happened to the car I acquired in the phone call? It was so badly rotted out that it was eventually cut up. But, it still lives on! A rear quarter found it's way to Peter Sturtevant's "project Lucas". A transmission tunnel must now learn to speak Italian as it is in my Innocenti restoration. The bonnet found it's way to Texas. So many bits and pieces from that car were sold at Carlisle that I honestly cannot tell you how many cars benefitted from it's demise!

Meanwhile, both Sue and I continue to attend Conclaves and yes, we hope to see you at next years Enclave! We continue to help plan meets in New England (hope to see you at SUMMIT 2014 in Plymouth) and we are looking forward to one more overseas trip, back to sunny Italy when the Innocenti Spider is finished. Wanna come along?

Ciao,

Steve & Sue Bell

Editor's note: For those of you who don't know Steve is a columnist for our national magazine Healey Marque. His columns are under the title "The Sprite Guy".

Essex Steam Train Fall Foliage Tour



Mark Saturday October 18 on your calendars for our Essex Steam train and Riverboat <http://essexsteamtrain.com/> fall foliage tour followed by lunch at the Black Seal <http://theblackseal.net/about.html> and shopping in downtown Essex, Connecticut http://www.essexct.com/uniquely_essex.php . Leaves should be near their peak for this ride on a wonderful 2- 1/2 hour classic steam train and boat cruise on the Connecticut River. In addition to seeing the fall foliage in its glory, we'll see the Goodspeed Opera House, Gelston House and Gillette Castle from the water.

As a special treat Bev Sealand contracted former club member Fred Jordan who traded driving a Healey for driving the Essex Steam locomotives. Fred has made arrangements for us to have a tour of the Essex Steam Train Roundhouse which will be begin at 10:00am.

Cost of the train and boat tour is \$28 pp but if we are more than 20 people we will get the group rate of \$22 pp. Our group will be able to sit together on the train. For your GPS the address is 1 Railroad Ave, Essex, Ct. 06426. ***For planning and reservation purposes please RSVP to Jud Perkins judperk@comcast.net by Wednesday October 15.***

GREENWICH FALL FOLIAGE TOUR

Sat October 25, 2014 (rain date 10/26)

Join other club members for a back country foliage tour starting in Bedford, NY. Meet at the Bedford, NY green (intersection of Rt 22 & Rt 172) for an 11:15 a.m. departure. This low-speed tour is just 35 miles long, but will take 3+ hours with scenic stops and a picnic (BYO). To contact me after 9:30 that morning call cell 914 565 1663. Rain date 26 Oct.

Rudi Markl
h: 914 481 8555

[Preregistration for Cape Cod British Car Club's 2014 British Legends Weekend is open.](#)

The beautiful grounds of the Heritage Museum & Gardens in Sandwich Massachusetts is the site for the car show of the 12th Annual British Legends Weekend - October 10 through 12. This 3 day celebration of British motoring begins with a meet and greet on Friday night. The fun continues Saturday with your choice of either a back road cruise or a tour of Sandwich as it celebrates its incorporation 375 years ago. The weekend culminates on Sunday with a show of Classic British Cars and Motorcycles displayed on the lawn of Heritage Museums and Gardens with awards for multiple classes being presented in the early afternoon. Also offered on Sunday, guided tours of the gardens by a horticulturist and a behind the scenes tour of the Museum's classic car collection. Come enjoy an early fall weekend on the Cape with foliage, winding seaside roadways and people intent on having a good time. For a schedule of events, lodging info, registration, car classes, rules and more, go to www.CapeCodBritishCarClub.org.

We've talked at times about getting members together for an impromptu Healey event, so on Tuesday Aug. 26th Carl and Ami Carvel, Jud Perkins and Pat and Judi and I celebrated Carl's birthday by taking a 9:00 AM ferry from New London to Orient Point N.Y. for a day trip to Long Island. We window shopped (for the Ladies) then took a short ferry ride to Shelter Island for a delicious lunch at the Islander Restaurant, followed by a mini tour of the island. We returned to mainland Long Island for a caravan to one of the many wineries for a tasting, followed by a ride to Soundview Restaurant for a smallish, wonderful dinner. We had a short ride back to the 7:00 PM ferry for the trip back to New London. It was a memorable day. Ted Stanton

Applecrest Farm Orchards Tour October 5th.

This is a perfect Fall event. Last year was a sunny day. The Applecrest Farm has an Activity for all ages. Apple picking, Bluegrass music, great food, car displays, and more.

Don't let your Healey sit in the garage this Fall. Join us at Applecrest!

Contact Nick Zarkadas at zdesign@comcast.net for all the details.

Visit the Applecrest Farms web site for directions.

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/AHCAMembers/?frep=ts>
www.ahca-newengland.com

1959 Bugeye Sprite, 1275cc, wire wheels w/ Pirelli P-4s, front disc brakes, rewired, Spax rear tube shocks, newer tonneau, top, and Monza exhaust. Excellent driver, solid body w/ some cosmetic scratches, no dents or rust. Misc. parts inc. **\$9000**. Call John 518 439 7559 or e-mail for photos and details.
jhs202pb@gmail.com

A



simple safety tip from Jud Perkins.

A common lament of Healey's is dim headlights for those of us who drive at night. Recently I installed Sylvania Extravision headlights (H6024) and they made a big difference in my night road vision. They advertise a 15% wider field of vision and 15% greater light. Based on my unofficial view they easily deliver this and more. Installation is easy, simply remove the headlight ring (one screw) and then your old headlight retainer ring (three screws) and reinstall. Be careful not to remove the screws with springs behind them as these are the adjustment screws, but look for three small screws that hold the retainer ring in place. Electrically this light uses the same connection as the old light and I'm told draws no more current. This is not an endorsement for Sylvania as I'm sure others have similar products. By the way total cost \$29.95 X 2. Simple, cheap and safer.

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When you need help with your Healey...

Call us. We can do the work for you, or work side-by-side 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

We service all the British marques

MG Austin-Healey JAGUAR TRIUMPH

Lempert 3:54 rearend Gears and Much More
 Dan has come up with more gears for me,so when you're ready to vastly improve the road ability of your Healey I should still have some.Ask someone who has made the switch.The price to me has gone up a little,so the new price is \$1300.00 installed and guaranteed.

A lot of people have been asking me to do mechanical work on there cars also.Since I've been building,racing,showing,and genuinely *enjoying Healeys and there owners for thirty three years, and am now retired,I'd like to offer my repair services to any NE Region members. Haven driven the "Hershy Bar" over 120,000 miles in the last 30 years,I know what it takes to keep them on the road and be "reasonably " dependable. My hourly rate is only \$35.00 per hour and my truck and trailer can travel anywhere in the NE. if necessary.*

Any questions call Paul Dunnell @ 413-339-0102 or e-mail to austin3000@verizon.net

Mr. Bell,

Hello! My fiancée, Victoria, and I are planning our wedding for next year and would really love to ride from the church to the reception in Bristol RI in an Austin-Healey! I found your info on the Austin-Healey club of New England site and am hoping that you know of someone in the club that would be able help. I'm currently deployed so in only available through email, but you can call Victoria at 617-312-4791 or just email us back! Best, William Ashton