

HEALEY HEARSAY

Official Publication of the



Club of San Diego



In This Issue:

- Temecula Cork Inspection Tour
- AHCSA Annual Christmas Party At The Automotive Museum
- It's Ball Bearing Breaker Rallye Time

January '09

From The Editor:

I'm starting my column early on New Years Eve as the last sands of '08 slide through the grasping hands of '09. Change is coming to the AHCSd as it's coming to the rest of the country. Try as I may, I have a hard time seeing Healey's running on reclaimed vegetable oil any time soon. Opps...shouldn't have said that. My Mac screen has just taken a picture of me and the homeland internal security terrorist squad is knocking at the front door. The officer knocking looks strangely like Al Gore. I think I just woke up from a nightmare, I hope.

We just received the Conclave '08 Badges, and you guessed it, *no good deed goes unpunished*. Thirty nine, yes, **thirty nine** out of the seventy badges we ordered arrived with broken attachments. I have no idea how this could have happened and regret the inconvenience to all those who have been patiently waiting.



I have contacted Sue at Lauren for replacements. You will be receiving an e-mail from Susan Virden-Kwait' on badge shipping. It's not a good start for the new year, but we're doing our best to correct this as soon as possible.

My embarrassing near disaster may give some the impetus to add the flashing emergency feature to your Healey's turn signals. See page 11 and give it some thought.

I want to thank everyone for the support you have given me as editor over the years. Being editor has been a great experience as I have learned much, and tried to stay humble in the process (see above). I believe, in many respects, the newsletter binds the club together and helps give it focus. Which is what I have always tried to do. My best wishes to the new editor, and to all in '09.

Regards,
Warren

January Meeting

• **Wednesday, Jan 14 th 6:30 PM** Coco's Bakery Restaurant 10430 Friars Rd at Mission Gorge Rd (TG 1249-J6)



HEALEY HEARSAY is the official monthly publication of the **AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB OF SAN DIEGO**. Monthly members' meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. The location varies, and is announced by email, in this newsletter, and on our web site, www.sdhealey.org.

Membership Information

Membership in the Austin Healey Club of San Diego is open to all owners of Austin Healey, Jensen Healey, or any other Healey vehicles, and to anyone else who is interested in the Healey marque. Annual dues for the Austin Healey Club of San Diego are \$30 per household. Visit our web site, www.sdhealey.org, or contact our Membership Coordinator, Vice President Rick Snover (ricksnover@earthlink.net) for details and an application.

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Gerry Kwiat' (619) 922-2581 aahealeyguy@aol.com
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Mike Williams (858) 496-0546 healeymike@earthlink.net

Advertising Information

Classified Ads (Market Place) are free to members. Classifieds for items wanted or small items for sale are free to nonmembers, too. Ads may be placed any time. Submit artwork and payment to the Treasurer. Annual display ad and monthly nonmember "Car For Sale" classified ad rates are as follows:

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|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Full page 8"x 10.5" | \$ 100.00 per year |
| Half page 5"x 8" | \$ 75.00 per year |
| Quarter page | \$ 50.00 per year |
| Business card | \$ 30.00 per year |

All advertising and articles for publication must be submitted to the editor no later than the 20th of each month for publication in the next month's issue. (votstir@aol.com)

Cover- AHCSd Make A Wish Foundation dotnation (See pg. 9).
Visit our web site at <http://www.sdhealey.org>



Happy New Year All !!

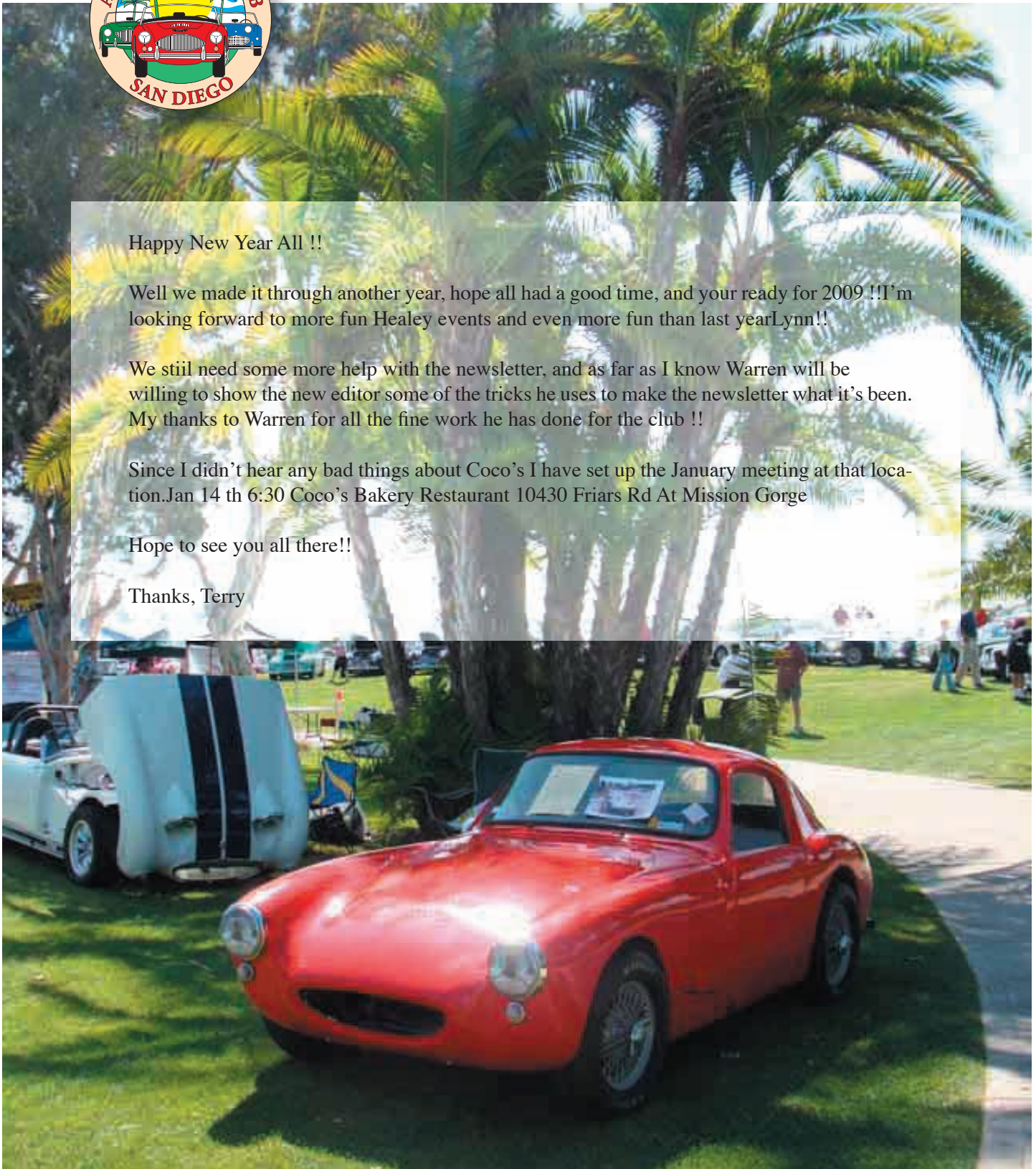
Well we made it through another year, hope all had a good time, and your ready for 2009 !!I'm looking forward to more fun Healey events and even more fun than last yearLynn!!

We stiiil need some more help with the newsletter, and as far as I know Warren will be willing to show the new editor some of the tricks he uses to make the newsletter what it's been. My thanks to Warren for all the fine work he has done for the club !!

Since I didn't hear any bad things about Coco's I have set up the January meeting at that location. Jan 14 th 6:30 Coco's Bakery Restaurant 10430 Friars Rd At Mission Gorge

Hope to see you all there!!

Thanks, Terry



October Meeting Minutes

HAPPY FALL

GO CHARGERS

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Attendance for the Oct 8th, Meeting (held the Round Table Pizza, Govenor Drive, Univ. City).

24 members were in attendance. Drove Healeys*, other British ~. Attending were:

Rick Snover, Gerry & Susan Kwiat', Steve Kirby*, Bob Humphreys*, Dick & Jan Schmidt, Sam Talbert, John & Mary Schermerhorn, Mike Dolphin, Jim & Barbara Widgery, Jim & Libby Pendleton, Franco Ganino, Gisela Putzke, Terry Cowan*, Bob & Sue Farnsworth, Warren Voth*, Chuck Sharp, Mike Williams, and Sandy Leon.

Meeting was called to order by President, Terry Cowan at 7:10 pm. Call for reports from the board.

• **Secretary:** September Minutes needed correction from "Aerospace Museum" to "Automotive Museum".

Susan also read correspondence received from LeRae Phillips-a Thank-You note for garden plant and donation to American Heart Association in remembrance of Ron Phillips.

• **Vice President/Membership:** Membership is at 102 members. New member Franco Ganino (Sprite owner) was introduced. Renewal notices for 2009 will be coming out via e-mail and then snail mail for those that do not renew by e-mail. Elections will be coming up at November meeting. There is a need for filling the positions of Activities Chairperson and • Newsletter Editor.

• **Treasurer:** Reported transfer of monies back to the Club Treasury of the "seed money" for Conclave 08. See Treasurer for treasury balance. Discussions were held as to possibilities of where to spend some of the Club's monies (i.e. Events, Charities, Equipment).

• **Newsletter:** Info to Warren by 20th of this month. Requests for stories and pictures. Discussion was held concerning the negative article about Conclave in the Cascade newsletter and responses made.

• **Activities:** Reports made of British Car Day and success of event (300 cars in attendance). Thank-you's for those assisting in making signs (Rick, Schermerhorn's) and setting up of cars at the Event. Discussion was held as to the various activities to participate in. These included: Sat Oct 18th, Oktoberfest at Farnsworth's at 11 am, meet at Bilsteins, Scripps Poway Parkway at 10am for pre-drive. Tech Session at Kurt May's in Del Mar re: BJ7 fuel system/gas tank installation. Sun Nov 2nd Club 30th Anniversary Party Brunch at Bellefleur's Restaurant at Carlsbad, parking being arranged for Healeys. It was voted on and approved for the Club to pay for the entire Brunch. Sat Nov 22nd Tech Session at Schermerhorn's regarding painting of the Sprite. Dec 13th Christmas Party at Automotive Museum, 10am-2pm, Brunch Menu. See newsletter and website for these and other listed activities.

• **Regalia:** Jan & Dick introduced discussion concerning Club stock regalia and Conclave regalia (which was very large) being sold at Club cost to assist in paring down the stored regalia items in their storage areas. Voted and approved and also that Conclave regalia be sold at Club cost + 10%.

• **Museum/Greater SD Car Club Council:** No report.

• **SD British Car Club Council:** Steve Kirby additional reported on the successes of British Car Day held at Admiral Baker Field and responses.

• **Conclave 08:** Mike reported that he would be doing a Conclave wrap-up report and income/expense report to AH Club America at the Delegates meeting and requested that all the final accounting (receipts and income \$\$s) be turned in to Sandy Leon for final accounting report. Final wrap-up meeting to be held at later date to be determined. Mike reported that the Make-A-Wish cross-country fundraiser had raised \$16,000 and that individual Clubs would be donating monies. Proposal made for the San Diego Club to earmark an amount to be given to Make-A-Wish that Mike could report at the Delegate meeting in Nov. Discussions were held as to amount to donate, motion was made and seconded for the SD Club to donate \$3,129.00 to MAW with monies staying locally in San Diego. Note: \$129.00 was Conclave refund to the Cascade Club member donated in his name. Vote was approved with 20 voting "Yes", 1 vote "No", and 3 votes "Abstained". Mike also reported that Conclave was going to reimburse Evalette \$500.00 for the printing costs of all Conclave materials.

• **Old Business:** None.

• **New Business:** Mike reported that he would be going to the AH Club America Delegates Meeting Nov 8th & 9th and asked if anything needed to be brought up by AHCSO members. November Meeting Elections will be held.

Gerry Kwiat' was the lucky dinner entrée winner. Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Virden-Kwiat', Secretary

What's Coming Up?

by Rick Snover, Activities Committee Chairman

Here it is, New Year's Eve, on the shore of Lake Wilson near Hillsdale, Michigan with my laptop but no Internet, and 2008 is about to fall completely into our past. I think it was a pretty good one for us, with Conclave, the Sprite 50th Anniversary, our Club's 30th Anniversary, a few fun drives and other parties. It was good to see so many Healeys on this year's Cork Inspection Tour with the Triumph Club, and I'm pretty sure everybody had a good time at our annual Christmas Party. Thanks again to Susan Virden-Kwiat' for all her hard work organizing that, and to everyone else who helped to make it a success.

I hope you're all looking forward to 2009 as much as I am. The calendar may look a little sparse at the moment, as we're in transition. Our incoming Activities Committee Chairwoman, Lynne Stark, will be officially taking over at the January meeting. She has a lot of ideas for activities that sound like a lot of fun, so be sure to stay tuned to this column in upcoming issues of Healey Hearsay.

First up this month is the 41st running of the semi-annual Ball Bearing Breaker Challenge Rallye on Saturday the 10th. I'm sure Rallye Master Lou Galper has put together a fun and challenging event. Contestants will gather to register at the Fish Market on Harbor Drive beginning at 8:30am, with the first car out at 9:30. See the flyer on page 10 or http://www.sandiegobritishcarday.org/BBBCR_XLI.html for complete details.

Guys, it's time to dust off those award-winning chili recipes. Our annual Super Bowl Party and Men's Chili Cook-Off will be on Sunday, February 1st. I don't think we've officially set the location yet, so we'll have to decide that at the Meeting on the 14th, so if you don't make it to the meeting be sure to keep an eye on your email and the web site for an announcement.

That's about all for now. We're heading into town, where I'll be able to email this to Warren. My year as Chairman of the Activities Committee has been fun. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

- **Saturday, January 10:** Ball Bearing Breaker Challenge Rallye XLI. http://www.sandiegobritishcarday.org/BBBCR_XLI.html
- **Sunday, January 11:** La Jolla Motorcar Classic at the Cove. <http://www.lajollabythesea.com/>
- **Wednesday, January 14, 6:30 PM:** AHCS Monthly Meeting at Coco's Bakery Restaurant 10430 Friars Rd at Mission Gorge Rd (TG 1249-J6)

FEBRUARY & BEYOND

- **Saturday, March 28:** Cars And Coffee In Irvine - British Car Day - "Last year we did this and over 100 British cars were on hand. Leaving the parking lot at about 8:30 AM, the caravan will go about 14 miles North and see about 75 cars on display at Crevier Classic Cars in Costa Mesa. No charge for this event." (We'll try to get the exact location for a future newsletter.)
- **Saturday, April 18:** 14th Annual San Diego Rolling British Car Day. <http://www.sandiegobritishcarday.org/>
- **June 21-26:** Austin Healey Conclave 2009 at the Am-



ERIC GRUNDEN

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Randy Zoller had little to worry about this year's Cork Inspection Tour...

Our first stop was Doffo Winery. As Randy said, Doffo definitely has THE best wines in the valley! There was simply not a bad bottle to be had at Doffo. I purchased several each of the '05 Cab, '06 Viognier, '05 Sauvignon Blanc, as well as an '05 Port. The port, from my sample, will become a mortal sin when it is accompanied with French chocolate truffles from Trader Joe's.

Marcello Doffo's collection of over 50 historical and vintage Italian motorcycles add a definite international flare to Doffo wines. His varietals, like his bikes, are so good they too seem to come from somewhere else. I have often admired Ducati's, which figure prominently in Marcello's collection. They seem more like sculpture. If arriving and looking good on a bike is a statement, doing it on a Ducati is hard to beat. Motorcycles on two tiers fill a garage and line a very attractive patio designed for parties.

Duffo's tasting room is a small and intimate stage for it's wines. The wine bar is across one end where Marcello holds court with Zulma. Marcello even autographed favorite bottles with philosophic thoughts of the moment. Sipping Doffo wines with friends is a pleasant way to spend a winter afternoon that is just chilly enough to go with the long shadows of the season. If you weren't there, you missed it.

Lana Livingston and I were among the last to leave Doffo Winery which made us the last to arrive at Wilson Creek Winery's new Creekside Restaurant. We enjoyed a nice sandwich with tasty curly fries. The last to leave again, we didn't sample Wilson Creek Winery's offerings and went on to our final stop, Oak Mountain Winery.

Cork Inspecting seems to loose something after lunch, which may be unfair To Oak Mountain's wines, especially when comparing them to Doffo. However, Oak Mountain's view of the surrounding countryside made the stop as memorable as their wines, unfortunately, seemed forgettable. Randy, Lana, and I, were of course, the last to leave.

See page 11 to see how my day ended.

Warren



Lana Livingston and Dave Grundies sample Doffo wines, said to be the best in the Temecula Valley.



Marcello & Zulma cordially serve, sell and autograph Doffo wines at the bar in their intimate tasting room.



Top left- A lightweight Capri touring bike from the 50's. Part of Marcello's collection of over 50 Italian motorcycles. Top right- Marcello's Ferrari with the back seat driver everyone can agree on. Middle right- a vintage Ducati engine.

Above- Lana Livingston enjoying the view from Oak Mountain winery's patio. Left- Oak Mountain's very nice events area for parties or weddings. The winery and tasting room is to the left.

Annual Christmas Party At The San Diego Automotive Museum

Bob Kitterer reminding Dick & Douglas Schmidt to be "good for goodness sake."

Mike Williams and Udo Putzke were co-hosts at our Annual Christmas party. We had an exceptional turnout and everyone was treated to the party with proceeds from Conclave '08. It was a wonderful wrap-up for our Conclave year. The gift exchange, as usual, was its own brand of fun with most getting what they wanted, others getting what we thought they deserved with Holiday spirit. Udo was this year's Santa again and Mike did the Make A Wish Foundation check presentation. A museum bonus was our viewing the Ferrari display on the main floor. A favorite was the white 1950 2-liter Ferrari 166 MM Barchetta roadster.



Udo Putzke presents Warren Voth, outgoing HH editor, with the COTY badge award for most points for attending club driving events in his Healey in 2008.

The catering group was the Ramona High School ROP Program where the students learn catering, cooking, hospitality, etc. Laurie Ivers and Bev teach the program. There were 4 students doing the cooking, presentation and serving food. They received an accolade

from the Club for a great job and tasty fare. Ramona High School ROP gets my vote for next year's party.

Club members attending included: Curt & Nancy Arndt and June Arndt, Norm Brewer, Bob & JoAnn Carberry, Terry Cowan, Mike Dolphin, Bob & Sue Farnsworth, Carroll & Karen Goldsworth, Gale & Martha Hess, Bob & Barbara Humphreys, George Hurley, Bob Kitterer & Jennie Kline, Gerry & Sus Kwiat', Sandy & Lily Leon and James & Mark, Chic & Pat Linde, Jose & Angelina Mondragon, Jim & Libby Pendleton, LaRae Phillips, Udo & Gisela Putzke, John & Mary Schermerhorn, Dick & Jan Schmidt and Douglas Schmidt & Kirsten, Rick Snover & Allie Casarda, Howard & Lynne Stark, Sam & Janiece Talbert, Craig & Sue Turner, Warren Voth, Mike Williams, Roland & Loreen Wilhelmy.



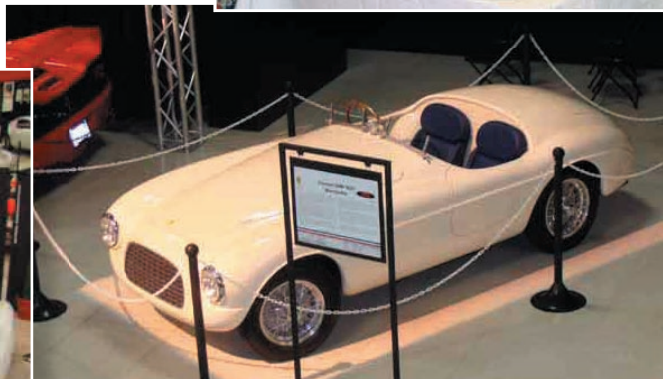


At the November Delegate's meeting, Greg Lauser, AHCA Club Promotion V.P., reported that thanks to all of the participating club's generous members, families and friends that total contributions had reached \$29,050. Several mdelegates also indicated plans by their clubs to make initial or added contributions before Jan. 1, 2009.

As you all know, our club was very busy this year with the planning of Conclave and were not able to directly participate in the cross-country caravan activities, except for being the end point at Conclave. Well, that did not stop us from donating. At the December Holiday Party, our club presented San Diego Make-A-Wish Chapter Rep., Chris Sitchel, a check for \$3,129.00 from our Conclave profits.



The catering group from the Ramona High School ROP Program where the students learn catering, cooking, and hospitality, received an accolade from the club for an outstanding brunch.



A museum bonus was our viewing the Ferrari display on the main floor. A favorite was the white 1950 2-liter Ferrari 166 MM Barchetta roadster (above), one of only nine built. Left-a cluster of red Ferrari's matched the Holiday Season.

The Semiannual Ball Bearing Breaker Challenge

**PUT THIS EVENT ON
YOUR CALENDAR!**

Rallye XLI (41)

**...IS PLANNED AND
READY TO GO...**

Here are the details...

- **What:** The Semiannual Ball Bearing Breaker Challenge Rallye XLI (41)
- **Who:** All Clubs in the British Car Club Council
- **When:** Saturday January 10, 2009
- **Time:** Meet at 8:30 AM. First car out at 9:30.

- **Location:** Fish Market parking lot, 750 N. Harbor Drive, next to USS Midway Museum.
- **Cost:** \$10 per car. This is to cover the cost of the trophies for the First, Second and Third place finishers, both Driver and Navigator. All food costs are your own responsibility.



Famous Rallye Master Lou Galper with Champion Navigator Debbie Durham host the year's first Ball Bearing Breaker Challenge. Meet Lou & Debbie in person!

• **We will be exploring some new areas of San Diego.** It is highly recommended to have both a driver and a navigator on the Rallye since there are clues and questions that need to be figured out and answered during the course, but single drivers are welcome and no one is excluded.

• **A little bit about the Ball Bearing Breaker Challenge Rallye.** This is a timed event BUT NOT A RACE. It is meant to be fun!!! Each entrant (driver and navigator) will get an instruction packet at the start. There are clues for directions, so you will not know the end point (a local restaurant) of the Rallye. During the Rallye, each entrant follows the directions and clues, and tries to answer as many of the questions as possible. The course has been mapped out,

and driven and a time has been calculated as to how long it "SHOULD" take each participant to finish. We will be done in time for Lunch. At the end, we all meet up at the finishing point for some fun and food. The times of each car are calculated, and points given for each correct answer for the questions within the packet. The winner is the one with the most points!

• **For those people who may get a bit lost or mis-routed,** a sealed envelope is also given with the final destination (and a MAP). Also an emergency number will be given out. I will have my trusty Map with me and I am sure to get you to the finish line no matter where you end up in San Diego (you will not be crossing any international borders!).

Questions? Call or email Lou Galper at 619-287-0626 or lgalper@cox.net

This Cautionary Tale Could Have Ended My Healey And Me

I had installed an emergency flasher system several years ago, because it was easy to do. I never thought (or hoped) I would have use for it.

I had filled up before going on Randy Zollers Cork Inspection Tour and figured I had gas for the round trip to Temecula and back to El Cajon. After a nice day cork inspecting, I dropped Lana Livingston at her home and headed south on 15 to 52 east and home.

The gauge showed about a quarter tank and I had about 10 miles to go to the Santee Costco, where I usually fill up on trips like these.

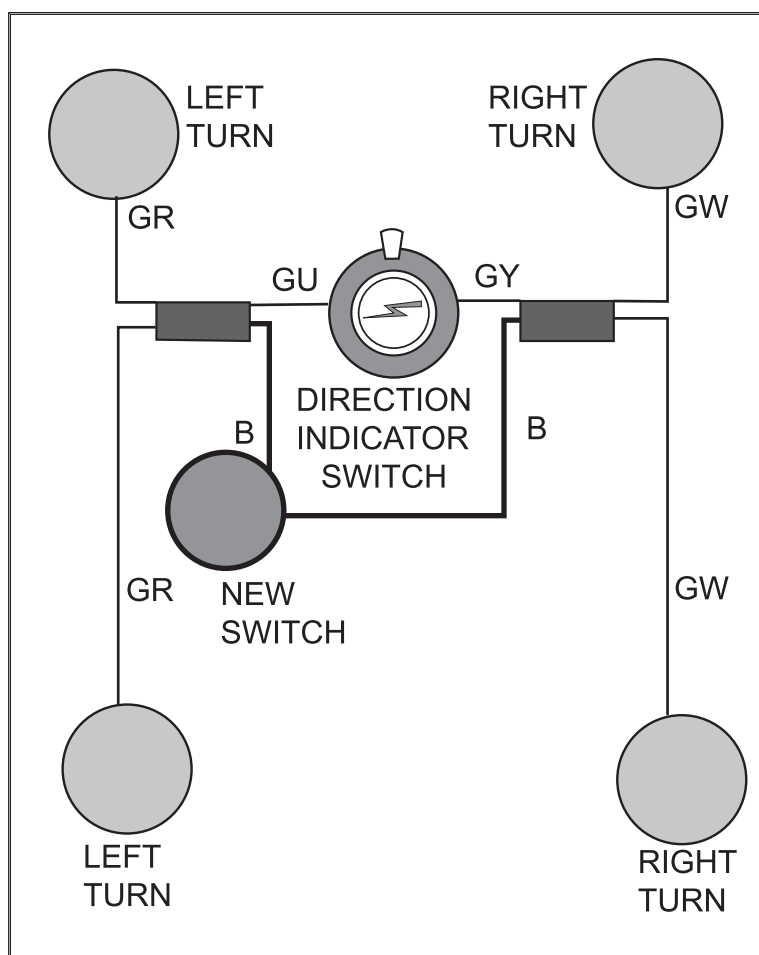
About a half mile east of the Santo Road exit my Healey sputtered and died so quickly that I couldn't believe I was out of gas. I never run out of gas and always err on the side of caution as the tank only holds twelve gallons. I must have not seen the gauge clearly as it is in the left corner of the dash and the gauge light is only about two watts.

As I was in the outside lane, my first thought was to pull off the road and flag down help. But I couldn't pull off the road because of construction!

Concrete K-rails blocked the shoulder and there I was out of gas stopped in a traffic lane.

I switched on my emergency flashers, grabbed the three celled flashlight behind the seat and jumped out of the car

and started madly signaling cars to go around me. The serious part is that in darkness, vehicles approaching thought I was on the side of the road and didn't bother changing lanes until they were almost upon me. I guess you could say my life passed before my eyes as I thought I might at least lose the car and maybe get hit myself. I imagined someone hitting the car, causing a multiple car accident and me losing everything in court.



After about fifteen minutes, a soldier took a chance on stopping and offered help. He had a gas can with him and went to get gas. About ten minutes later, a CHP stopped and said he had to push the car into the center divider which was about twenty feet wide. This left two dents in the rear shroud (since repaired). The soldier returned with the gas and received a generous tip from me.

The moral of this story is to be prepared for the worst and hope it never happens. The flashers went a long way in saving my car and me.

Give your Healey a new year's present. The flasher conversion is easy to do. All that is needed is a

toggle switch (that may be concealed under the dash), two Lucas double bullet connectors, Two Lucas bullet terminals and wire. It could be a life saver. It was for me.

Warren Voth



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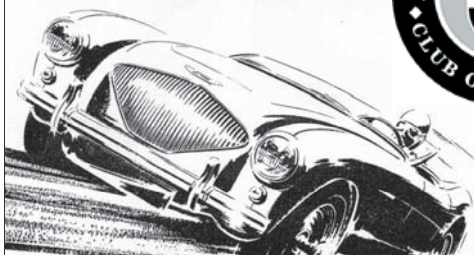
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CAR OF THE YEAR AWARD



In an effort to recognize Club members who participate with their Healeys, the Austin Healey Club of San Diego awards Car of the Year (CotY) points for various activities. Opportunities to collect CotY points include any car-related events (shows, drives, rallies etc.) sponsored by an official organization (other car clubs, auto museum, city chambers of commerce, charities) where you participate with your Healey. These events may or may not be listed in the newsletter. The participant is responsible for providing proof of participation (entrance fee receipt, photo, corroboration from other club members, etc.) to the CotY recorder, Gisela Putzke (858-486-3870 or putzkes@cox.net), within 30 days after the event. AHCSO events will have a sign-in sheet that will be forwarded to the recorder. For multi-Healey families, be sure to indicate which car(s) you drove.

CotY points currently approved by the Board are: AHCSO Meetings & Tech Sessions 4 pts, AHCSO Driving Events, Parties, etc. 6 pts, California Healey Week 16 pts, Healey Rendezvous 16 pts, Austin Healey Conclave 16 pts, S.D. British Car Day & Rolling B.C.D. 10 pts, Other non-AHCSO one-day events 2 pts, Other non-AHCSO multi-day events 4 pts, The Board on a case-by-case basis may award points for other events.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|---------------------------------|---|
| Snover, Rick AN8..... | 10 | Carberry, Bob & Jo-Ann BJ8..... | 6 |
| Turner, Graig BT7..... | 10 | Thrift, Rick BT7..... | 6 |
| Voth, Warren BJ8..... | 6 | Putzke, U+G BT7..... | 4 |
| Humphreys, B&B BT7..... | 6 | Brewer, Norm Jensen..... | 4 |
| Tabachki, N&N 100-6..... | 6 | | |

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- Aaron Roberts (San Diego) 1961 3000
- George & Kathy McHarris (Santa Ana) 1956 100, 1959 Sprite

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| • Barbara Humphreys | 12/01 |
| • Angela Armstrong | 12/05 |
| • Marji Nightingale | 12/10 |
| • Susan Virden-Kwiat' | 12/10 |
| • Michael Cooper | 12/12 |
| • John McGee | 12/12 |
| • Kathleen Quillo | 12/14 |
| • George Hurley | 12/16 |
| • Chris Segal | 12/18 |
| • Sue Farnsworth | 12/22 |
| • Johathan Gonzales | 12/22 |
| • Carroll Goldsworth | 12/25 |
| • Debbie Cummings | 12/28 |
| • Lynne Stark | 12/30 |
| • Nancy Stalker | 12/30 |
| • Aejnt de Boer | 12/31 |

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| • Craig & Sue Turner | 12/01/79 |
| • Carroll & Karen Goldsworth | 12/17/61 |
| • Ken & Jeanne Deringer | 12/18/77 |
| • Curt & Nancy Arndt | 12/21/84 |
| • Lee & Joyce Dompe | 12/26/67 |
| • Aejnt & Virginia de Boer | 12/27/94 |
| • Gale & Martha Hess | 12/30/56 |
| • Dick & Jan Schmidt | 12/31/59 |

Putzke's "FAHRSPASS"

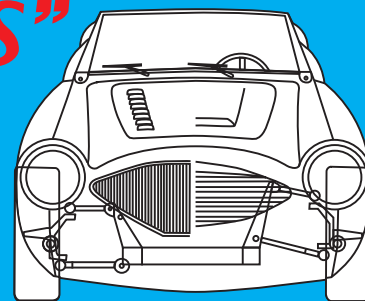
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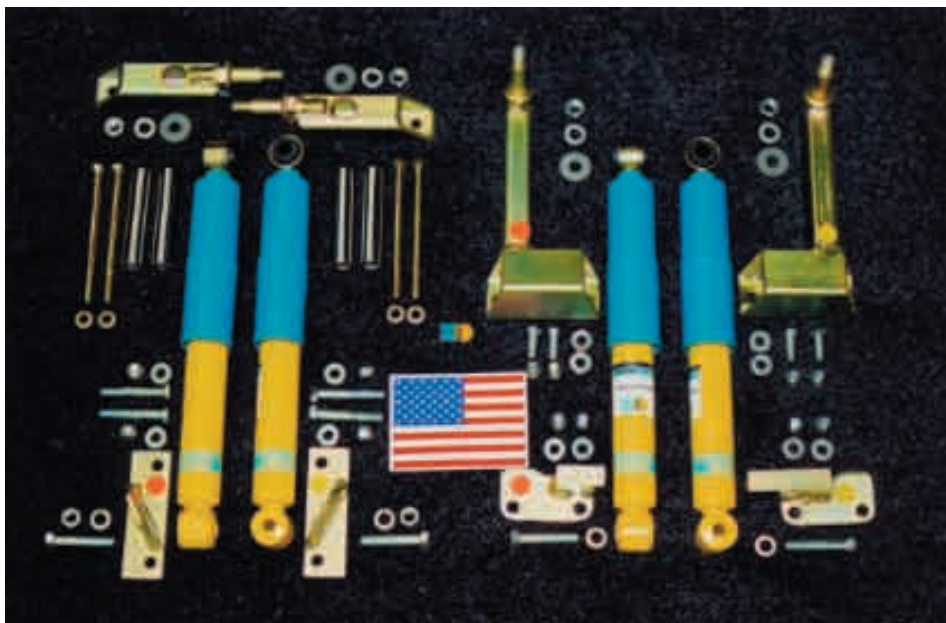
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BILSTEIN Shock Absorber kits for all Big Healeys & Jensen-Healey



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100/100-6/3000

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See it featured in the November issue of the Healey Hearsay on page 8. However it does not come with my wife's lap robe and other items in the photograph, as we need them for our Healey.

Super investment at \$26,900 o.n.o. Call Craig on 760-415-2246. Can email photos. Located in Escondido.

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