

# HEALEY HEARSAY

Official Publication of the

*Austin-Healey*

## Club of San Diego

### In This Issue:

New Members	Pages 5&11
Activities	Pages 6&7
Fourth of July Party	Pages 8&9
Cops and Rodders	Page 11
Driving in England	Pages 12&13
Drive Away Cancer	Page 13
Justice	Page 16
Putzkes at Conclave	Pages 15&17



**From The Editor:**

I was watching Top Gear the other day and the boys were discussing the best looking car ever. They chose their top three. They all

agreed on the Ford GT40, then they all agreed on the Aston Martin DB7 and finally they all agreed on the Lamborghini Miura. I agree they are all idiots! First, all their choices are coupes. Not even ONE open car. Shameful!! Furthermore, anybody listing the best looking cars and not mentioning the



Jaguar Series 1 E Type has lost his mind. And on top of this these blokes are **British**, for goodness sake!!

I recognize there are all manner of elements that go into making a car the best. They need to look right, they need to sound right, they need to go right, and

*Continued on Page 5*

**August Meeting**

August 8, 2012

Jimmies Restaurant  
9635 Mission Gorge Rd  
Santee, CA  
6:30 PM



**HEALEY HEARSAY** is the official monthly publication of the **AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB of SAN DIEGO**. Monthly member's meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P. M. The location varies and is announced in the newsletter and on our web site: [www.sdhealey.org](http://www.sdhealey.org)

**Membership Information**

Membership in the AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB of SAN DIEGO is open to all owners of Austin & Jensen Healey's and to all others who profess an interest in the cars or the purpose of the club. Yearly dues to the AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB of SAN DIEGO are \$30 per household. Visit our web site [www.sdhealey.org](http://www.sdhealey.org) or contact our Membership Coordinator, Vice President Mike Williams [healeymike@earthlink.com](mailto:healeymike@earthlink.com) for details and an application.

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 Terry Cowan 619-475-7937 [terry@toyshop-resto.com](mailto:terry@toyshop-resto.com)

**Advertising Information**

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

Full Page 7" x 9"	\$100.00 per year
Half Page 4.5" x 7"	\$75.00 per year
Quarter page 2.25" x 3.5"	\$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. [smacktalbert@yahoo.com](mailto:smacktalbert@yahoo.com)

**On the Cover:** Bob Humphreys parked his 1974 Jensen Healey along Harbor Drive in front San Diego's own **Star of India**, the world's oldest active sailing ship.

Visit our web site at <http://www.sdhealey.org>





Dear Healey Peeps...

Well here we are again almost August... Well we now have the completed mold and PMO back home again and so starts the race prep for Coronado, I hope. At the same time we are finishing up the Carmine Red 100-4 BN-1 for its

original owners Dan & Mary Lou Fox who live right here in San Diego. Our current goal is to have it ready for BCD. I love the color so much I may paint my 100-M that color. So, now we have to put a little "hustle in our bustle". We are also pushing hard again on the Healey Blue pre-production 100-4 for the Smiths, so we are fairly busy around the Toy Shop as of late.

I want to take a moment and once again thank Nancy & Neil Tabachki for having us at their wonderful home for the 4th of July party. And also thanks to Rick, Howard, Bob Kitterer and all those who helped make that happen.

I have a call into Peter Roses to chat about our future outings with the Association. Also, there is a lot of noise going around the larger clubs about donating to John Nikas & 'Grace' again so we will most likely talk about that again. OK that's all for now !!

Hope to see you all @ Jimmy's 6:30 PM August 8th....Terry

**President's Message:**

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## **BRITISH CAR DAY 2012**

The organizers are getting very excited about our new and improved British Car Day to be held on October 7, 2012, at Liberty Station in San Diego.

For the first time ever, we will be doing a Saturday BBQ the night before the car show. The BBQ will be held at the Marriott at Liberty Station which is only a few hundred yards from the show field. You can register for the car show at the BBQ, if you'd like, which will make your Sunday morning an easy process, as there will be two registration lines on Sunday, one for those register on Saturday and one for those who arrive for the first time on Sunday.

With regard to our vendors, we have moved away from automotive related vendors to those with a distinct British theme, or to those vendors with great creativity and artistry. We will definitely have the most diverse and interesting group of vendors ever.

Also, there will be an area for radio controlled race cars. This is another first. Bring the kids! If you have a radio controlled car, please bring it. If you don't have one, we may have a few available along with some guidance on how to operate them effectively.



## July 2012 Healey Meeting Minutes

The July 11th meeting was held at Jimmies Family Restaurant 9635 Mission Gorge Rd. Santee

*26 members and guests were in attendance: Drove Healeys\*, other British~.*

Terry Cowan, Mike Dolphin, Deborah Durham\*, Bob & Sue Farnsworth, Dick Hoss, Bob Humphreys\*, Susi Kwiat, Ed Matheus, Jody Morgan, Udo & Gisela Putzke\*, John & Mary Schermerhorn, Dick & Jan Schmidt, Rick Snover, Gary Stalker, Howard & Lynne Stark\*, Sam Talbert\*, Craig & Sue Turner~, Ed Valle\*, Sandy & Sandy Watt.

*Meeting was called to order at 7.15 p.m. by president Terry Cowan.*

**General Discussions:** As before, various events were brought up, which will keep people busy throughout the spring and summer. Please check this and all others out on the dedicated Activities Page.

***In the absence of a specific motion, last months meeting minutes will be deemed as approved as written.***

**Vice President/ Membership:** Mike Williams not in attendance. We do have a new member in Dick Hoss, who is a neighbor of the Farnsworths whom Bob introduced.

**Secretary:** Dick Schmidt thanked Susi Kwiat for standing in as secretary in his absence, and to the group in general for their thoughts, cards, etc in his absence.

**Treasurer:** Mike Dolphin dutifully reported on our current balance – we're solvent.

**Newsletter:** Sam brought pictures on his laptop from the July 4th party at the Tabachkis' with 33 in attendance. He again stressed the need for 'content' to dispel the need for stories of the grandkids. California Healey Week and Conclave should certainly provide source material.

**Activities:** Given all the myriad of events around the city, August will be a 'your choice' month as you peruse through the Dedicated Activities page(s). This will be made up for by Octobers' British Car Day and our annual OktoberFest. At the Farnsworths, where else. Saturday the 20th 1.00 pm ish.

**Regalia:** Open position.

**Museum/Greater SD Car Club Council:** Gerry Kwiat was not in attendance. Susi did have flyers to some upcoming events and mentioned that the Auto Museum's "Greatest show on Turf" will now have a \$30 entry fee. Also mentioned was the reminder that Simpsons Nursery show is Sunday July 15th in Jamul.

**Old Business:** Sue Turner took a minute to comment on her hip injury recovery and thank the membership for their cards and remembrances.

**New Business:** None.

*Dick Hoss was the lucky dinner entree winner.*

**Meeting adjourned 7.55 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted  
Dick Schmidt, secretary





*Continued from Page 2*

stop right, etc. How much fuel they gulp is also a factor.

I am not interested in picking the best car, I just want to limit this discussion to looks, like the Top Gear boys did. I also, know beauty is in the eye of the beholder. So, I expect some divergence. None-the-less, here is my pick for best looking cars. My top three: Jaguar Series 1 E Type, Austin Healey 100-4 BN1, and the 1961 Chevrolet Corvette. Yeah, I know, they are all open. That's my bias.

You probably have your own picks and I would like to know your choices. E-mail them to me at [smacktalbert@gmail.com](mailto:smacktalbert@gmail.com), and I'll publish them.

## NEW MEMBER, DICK HOSS

On my way out to Ramona to chat with new member Dick Hoss, a white Healey roared by with a couple of geezers in it. I found out



later it was Bob Farnsworth and Dick Hoss. Dick and his wife, Deborah live in Ramona again, just around the corner from the Farnsworths. The big fire missed the Hoss residence, maybe due to Dick's personal fire

department (that's a story you'll have to ask him about). Dick spent years as a pilot for Delta and it was there he saw a cute, British airline hostess and made tracks to marry her. They have three children and six grand kids.

Dick found what looks like a Healey, bought it and drove it home from Michigan. I say, "looks



like a Healey" because a closer look reveals very little that is actually Healey.

In fact, the only Healey parts are boot lid hinges and the boot latch. The rest of the car is crafted together as a kit or a fully complete car. The most obvious characteristic is under the bonnet where lies a 5.0 liter Ford V8.

So when you see that white Healey with flared wheel wells and wide rubber come roaring by



with that unique Ford burble, look closely and that wide grin will be Dick Hoss feeling like he is 21 again!

**ACTIVITIES**

*Rick Snover, Chairman, AHCSA Activities Committee*

The big event in July was our annual Independence Day BBQ on the Fourth. I believe everyone had a really good time, thanks to the efforts of our hosts, **Neil & Nancy Tabachki**, Shopper-In-Chief **Bob Kitterer** and his Deputy **Lynne Stark**. We had a good turn-out of Healeys at the BBQ, but only one (the Starks') showed up for the "scenic drive". Oh, well.

August brings the Heritage Day car show, the Reunion at Laguna Seca, and Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>. We'll meet Freeze in Allied Gardens at not we want to go to Santee

It's **Cruise Night** communities are holding

Here are just a few that

Cajon – every Wednesday,

September 12<sup>th</sup> (We may take advantage of the coincidence and hold our September meeting at the Cajon Classic.); La Mesa – every Thursday; Escondido – every Friday; Santee Lakes: every Friday; Chula Vista – every Tuesday; Claremont Square – 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of month. See [http://www.socalcarchculture.com/cruise\\_nights.html](http://www.socalcarchculture.com/cruise_nights.html) for a whole bunch more.

We're working on doing *something* in conjunction with the Austin Healey Association for the **English Motors at Fairbrook** weekend in mid-September – maybe dinner after the tour on Saturday, but nothing's been decided yet. The following weekend is the **Fleet Week Speed Festival** – "The Race At The Base", and two weeks later is the **San Diego British Car Day & Picnic** at Liberty Station in Point Loma. This year's featured marque is MG, celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. If my Sprite hasn't sold by then, maybe I should re-badge it as a Midget! Pre-registration is now open on the SD British Car Club Council website: <http://sandiegobritishcarday.org/portal/>. Don't forget to pre-register your Healey! The more cars we have pre-registered in our classes (usually Big Healey and Sprite), the more trophies per class.

Lots of great ideas have been coming in: John Felt has offered to make his next **Bugeye BBQ** event in September a Club event, although September's calendar is already pretty full; Terry Cowan is investigating the possibility of another **Anniversary Brunch** at Belle Fleur in November; and we're already starting to plan our annual **Christmas Party** in December, too. The rest of the year looks like a *lot* of fun! Thanks everybody, and keep those ideas coming!

**WHAT'S COMING UP?**

**Sunday, August 5 – 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Automobile Heritage Day Parade & Car Show**– *Featured Mark:* *Volkswagon*

Kimball Park, E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street & "D" Ave., National City – Presented by: National City Chamber of Commerce.

<http://www.nationalcitychamber.org/events/annual-events/automobile-heritage-show/>

*Continued on Page 7*



National City Automobile Monterey Motorsports our **Ice Cream Social** on for ice cream at Foster's 6pm, then decide whether or Drive-In for a movie. season again, and many local weekly or monthly events. members have mentioned: El with "British Invasion" on





*Continued from Page 6*

**Wednesday August 8, 6:30PM – AHCSO Monthly Meeting**

Jimmy's Family Restaurant, 9635 Mission Gorge Rd in Santee.

**August 17-19 – Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion – *Featured Marque: Shelby Cobra***

Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, Salinas, CA

<http://www.mazdaraceway.com/rolex-monterey-motorsports-reunion>

**Sunday, August 19, 9:00AM – Golden Cove All British Cars Coffee Meet**

Join other British car enthusiasts for Starbucks and conversation – Starbucks Coffee at Golden Cove Shopping Center, 31202 Hawthorne Boulevard in Rancho Palos Verde. Recommended by: Austin Healey Association of Southern California.

<http://www.sdhealey.org/calendar/flyers/GoldenCove2%20%20Every%20Month.pdf>

**Saturday, August 25, 6:00PM – Annual AHCSO (AHCA National?) Ice Cream Social**

Drive your Healeys to Foster's Freeze, 5129 Waring Road (TG 1250-A6). We'll have some ice cream or whatever else you like (<http://fostersfreeze.com>), and then decide whether or not we want to go to Santee Drive-In for a movie. (Of course, non-Healeys are welcome, too.)

**Sunday, August 26, 7:30AM-1:00PM – Nuts4Cars Sports Car Rally Sports Car Show**

Girard Ave between Silverado and Prospect, La Jolla

- Registration: \$25 Pre-Registration Deadline is Aug 14. \$35 Registration from Aug 15-26.
- A portion of your fee will be donated to support the San Diego Police Officers' Widows & Orphans Fund.

Presented by: Nuts4Cars - The La Jolla showcase for vintage and custom automobiles.

<http://nuts4cars.org/events/sports-car-rally/>

**Saturday, September 8, 10AM-2PM – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual North Park Historical Society Car Show**

Open to all makes, models & years (pre-1990 encouraged) – Balboa Tennis Club Parking Lot, 2221 Morley Field Drive, San Diego – Limited to first 70 cars pre-registered by August 31 – Pre-registration fee: \$10

Presented by: North Park Historical Society.

<http://www.northparkhistory.org/documents/Car Show Documents/Car Show Registration flyer 4-22-12.pdf>

**Sunday, September 9, 9AM-2PM – Greatest Show On Turf 2012 – Annual Auto Museum & Car Club Council Car Show ☐☐ *Honoring Our First Responders 9/11/01* ☐☐ at Liberty Station in Point Loma – Limited to first 400 cars registered**

Registration (\$30, \$46.50 w/ T-shirt): On-line: <http://www.sdautomuseum.org/events/greatest-show-turf-0>, or print & mail: [http://www.sdautomuseum.org/sites/default/files/gsot\\_registration\\_form\\_0.pdf](http://www.sdautomuseum.org/sites/default/files/gsot_registration_form_0.pdf)

Presented by: SD Automotive Museum & Car Club Council of SD

**Wednesday September 12, 5PM-8PM – Cajon Classic “British Invasion” Cruise Night, downtown El Cajon.**

**Saturday, September 15 – English Motors At Fairbrook (Tour)**

Carlsbad-to-Harrah's Rincon Casino. <http://www.englishmotorsatfairbrook.org/>

*Continued on Page 9*



## The Fourth of July

San Diego became the butt of jokes for the world's shortest fireworks display. It lasted a whole 18 seconds!! None-the-less, it did not



diminish the fun enjoyed by SDAHCH in the backyard of Neil and Nancy Tabachki. Thirty three members (and friends) came and eight of them drove Healeys and Rick and Allie showed off her new Cooper.



Howard  
"Grill

Master" Stark filled the air with the pungent aroma of hickory smoke and laid out a feast of burgers, brats and



broil. Side dishes from other members made the taste buds dance.

Nancy is an accomplished grower of orchids and a walk around the corner of their house



made you feel lost in a rain forest with beauty peeking out from even remote places.

An afternoon with a yard full of Healey folks just begs for 'Healey talk'. At any time you might hear anything from stories of how Terry got started fixing Healeys in his driveway in Imperial Beach to conversations about California Healey Week and Conclave to "does Nancy really ride that motorcycle?"



The plan was to cruise up to Rancho Santa Fe, enjoy Bar-B-Q at the Tabachkis, hang out with Healey friends, then wade through the Del Mar Fair traffic then watch the fireworks on the bay. Well, you know what happened there. So, the finish to a celebration of our independence turned out to be an 18 second dud. Never the less, looking back a great

*Continued on Page 9*





*Continued from Page 8*

afternoon with good friends in a free country



says more about America than any fireworks



display ever could. Thanks Rick for scheduling



it, thanks Tabachkis for hosting it, thanks Howard for cooking it and thanks to all you military who insure it stays free and secure. **God bless America!!**

*Continued from Page 7*

**Sunday, September 16 – English Motors At Fairbrook (Show)**

at Fairbrook Farm, 4949 South Mission Road, Fallbrook. <http://www.englishmotorsatfairbrook.org/>

**September 22 & 23 – 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Fleet Week Coronado Speed Festival, "The Race at the Base"**

Vintage Auto Races, plus Navy Open House, Car Club Corral, Car Show, Garage Tour, Test at NAS North Island, Coronado. Produced by: San Diego Fleet Week Foundation. <http://www.fleetweeksandiego.org/events/speed-fest.html>

**Saturday, October 6, 2012, 5:00PM – S.D.**

**British Car Day BBQ** – You can receive your registration packet early and skip the lines on the day of the show! Courtyard SD Airport/Liberty Station, 2592 Laning Rd, San Diego – Buy tickets (\$20 each) with your British Car Day pre-registration, below. – Presented by: San Diego British Car Club Council. <http://www.sandiegobritishcarday.org/>

**Sunday, October 7– 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual San Diego British Car Day & Picnic – Celebrating 50 Years of MGB**

Ingraham Plaza at Liberty Station, 2640 Decatur Road, in Point Loma.

- Information Line: (760) 746-1458.
- Pre-Registration by September 20th: \$20/car (\$10/motorcycle): <http://sandiegobritishcarday.org/portal/index.php/event-registration>
- "British Car Day" group rate at Courtyard SD Airport/Liberty Station.

Presented by: San Diego British Car Club Council. <http://www.sandiegobritishcarday.org/>

**Saturday, October 20, 1PM – Annual AHCS**

**"Oktoberfest"** – Bob & Sue Farnsworth's house in Ramona  
*Stay tuned for details.*



## AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB OF AMERICA

invites you to become one of our nearly 4,000 members and begin receiving the benefits of membership in the world's largest club for Austin-Healey enthusiasts:

- HEALEY MARQUE magazine, our award-winning, 40-page, colorful monthly magazine.
- AHCA Membership Directory, listing members in all 50 states, across Canada, and even many overseas.
- Austin-Healey Calendar, our colorful calendar with beautiful photography of these beautiful cars.
- 47 local chapters across the continent.
- Annual dues are still just \$40.
- Please visit our website:  
[www.healeyclub.org](http://www.healeyclub.org)



### July Anniversaries (Belated Congratulations!)

Gisela & Udo Putzke	7/17/92
Christine & Paul Brown	7/23/70

### August Anniversaries

June & Tom Howe	8/01/64
Katherine & John McVeety	8/16/85
Ramona & Hank Kohlmann	8/17/68
Silvia Torres & John Banales	8/23/03
Janiece & Sam Talbert	8/28/58



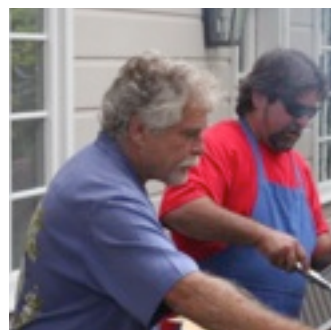
### July Birthdays (Belated Happy Birthday!)

Bob Humphreys	1
Silvia Torres	6
Edwin Neumeyer	8
Paul Brown	11
John Banales	13
Jo-Ann Carberry	14
Allie Snover	16
John Farkash	17
Alice Hurley	17
Dr. Janet Bowers	22
Andy Nelson	24
Neil Tabachki	28
Loreen Wilhelmy	30



### August Birthdays

Heidi Farkash	1
Sue Turner	1
Gary Stalker	2
Rick Snover	5
Sandy Watt	8
Gregory Sharp	9
Howard Stark	9
Alex Arndt	10
Alex Dolphin	14
Udo Putzke	14
Delia Williams	15
Curt Arndt	16
Roland Wilhelmy	17
Carlin Smith	20
Dennis Toler	21
Virginia de Boer	27







## NEW MEMBER, JODY MORGAN

I drove out to the San Diego Sky Diving Center and Ultra Light Association tucked in at the upper end of Otay Lake where the sky is full



of parachutes and Jody Morgan was sitting in his hanger. New member, Jody Morgan lives in Lakeside and His Bugeyes are stashed in a truck buried in 'stuff.' Since the cars are too deep in 'stuff' and since the Ultra Light Association is close to my home, we decided to meet there.

Jody showed me his plane and let me sit at the controls. I cannot imagine anyone feeling safe in one of these glorified kites. Strangely



enough Jody is afraid of heights, but straps

himself onto the bumper of this flying machine and pretends to be Superman.

One of these days Jody is planning to fish his Bugeyes out of the truck and put them on the road. "They have been in there for years," he says, "and I'm not getting any younger." "If I don't get them running soon, it might be too late."

So keep an ear open for a call for a tech session in Lakeside to help Jody with his Sprites.

## COPS AND RODDERS

Gerry and Susie Kwiat took in the "Cops and Rodders" event at Liberty Station and sent in these photos of some of the more important cars there; an ambulance, police cars and a Healey. Take a look.







## **BRITAIN VERSUS THE STATES FROM A DRIVER'S VIEWPOINT**

by *Sandy Watt*

As most of you know there are differences between driving in Britain and in the US, but it is not only in regards to driving on the correct side of the road. Having started my driving career in Britain I know both methods and will give you the benefit of my experiences. This information, I hope, will help you when you decide to take your car over the pond to participate in the London to Brighton Run, or one of the other tours through Britain. Even if you decide not to take your car you might still decide to go as a spectator, or you might decide to go the Beaulieu Auto Jumble, and visit car museums around the country.

Driving in Britain is quite an experience for the first time visitor, with all the cars being right hand drive, narrow twisting roads, single lane roads, Motorways, and that lovely British road feature called the "roundabout". To top it all off, there is the beautiful weather. As we say if you don't like the weather, don't worry, just wait 20 minutes and it'll get worse. Also we have a picnic every Summer, if Summer happens to fall on a Sunday. All joking aside, a trip to Britain is a fun adventure and with a few safety concerns you will have an enjoyable trip.

The first concern is that once you have arrived at the airport and are picking up the rental car, you will find cars going the "wrong" direction. You will be tempted to use the wrong lane out of the parking lot, and will want to actually head into the oncoming traffic. Stay to the left, go with the traffic flow, and you'll be driving out safely with all the other traffic. The next obstacle is the roundabout that is always located at the exit from the airport. Once again the key is to stay to the left and give way to traffic from the right. This is just the opposite from what we

are used to in the States. A bit of advice here is that most British drivers, if traffic allows, will slalom through a roundabout as if they were Formula One drivers hitting the apexes and taking the shortest route through the intersection.

There is a rule in Britain on multi lane roads, that you stay in the slow lane unless you are passing, and then you get back to the left lane as soon as it is safe. Speeds on the British Motorways tend to be slightly faster than in the US, and with a speed limit of 70mph on all dual carriageways. Most cars will travel between 80 and 90mph, with the faster cars traveling well in excess of 100 mph, yet they are safely sharing the same road with cars about 40mph. This is the reason for the lane etiquette, with people staying to the left unless they are passing. If it happens to be raining which it often does, don't worry, most people will still be driving at the same speed as if it were in the dry.

Driving in the Highlands of Scotland is like nothing else in the world. Beautiful curving single lane roads with free range sheep. These roads are fun to drive but you have to be aware of oncoming traffic as the road is only wide enough for one car, and in order to pass, one car has to give way and pull over at a passing spot until the vehicle going in the other direction has passed. These roads are often run at high speed, and the best way to prepare is to watch some of the pro-rally drivers competing on television.

Most of the time while in Britain you will have no problem remembering that you need to stay to the left. There are two occasions that you are liable to have relapses, and head instinctively to the "wrong" side of the road. The first is when you leave the Bed and Breakfast first thing in the morning, and the other is when you pull out of a petrol station and head back into traffic. Just remember to keep the passenger seat closest to the side of the road.

In Britain they don't talk "American", and you will have to learn to speak properly. To help you out, I've prepared a primer that should help. Car part swap meets are autojumbles. Gas is called petrol and is sold in Liters at a cost of about \$8 per gallon.

*Continued on Page 13*



**AUGUST 2012**

*Continued from Page 12*

Diesel is called diesel, but is also labeled Derv at the petrol station. A sidewalk is a pavement and a pavement is a roadway. French fries are called chips, and chips are called crisps. A hood is a bonnet and a trunk is the boot. Cell phones are mobiles, and a sweater is a jumper. Shops don't open till 9am and tend to close from 1 to 2 for lunch and then close for the day at 6pm. A "Full English" is a big breakfast, not to be confused with the "Full Monty", and Zebra, Pelican, Toucan and Puffin are all types of pedestrian crossings which are explained in the Highway Code which gives the rules for all road users.

One major difference between the US and the UK is that the police normally won't pull you over for speeding unless your speed is extreme and you are considered unsafe to other drivers on the road. They leave your ticket to the speed cameras that are located all over the countryside. They take a picture of your license plate along with an imprint of your speed, and the date and time, and mail it to you. There is nothing quite like driving along a darkened road in the rain and all of a sudden having the inside of your car lit up like daylight as your picture is taken and you realize that you have just been caught....

Daylight hours vary greatly with the time of year, and in the summer it is light until around midnight, with it getting light again around 3am. In the winter it's the opposite with only about 5 hours of daylight in the far north of Scotland. The first part of November, when the London to Brighton takes place there is about 8 hours of daylight, so the cars line up in the dark for the start, and you hope that you don't have any mechanical problems on the way that delay your arrival till after dark. The weather in November is already heading towards winter, and you can

expect it to be cold and blustery. Wear your rain gear and your woollies, or be prepared to get chilled to the bone. All part of the old car hobby in Britain. Lap robes and even hot-water bottles are in order as you try to fend off the chill. A nice hot cup of tea from the thermos always helps.

I haven't meant to scare anyone from deciding to go to Britain, I've just tried to point out a few items that are not normally mentioned in the tour books, and make you realize that your best action is to have a helper with you. It is with great humility that I offer my services to you as driver, translator, and a tour guide. As a starting point I know all the major airports in the UK, and can speed you through customs and immigration to the rental car desk, and from there get you out of the airport and on to whatever part of the country you desire.

*(p.s.- The Beaulieu Autojumble is held the second weekend in September, and I will be there in case anyone wants a tour guide. Strategies for getting your autojumble goodies back home is*

## **DRIVE AWAY CANCER**

As many of you know John Nikas has been driving his Healey all over the country raising awareness and money to combat cancer. A date has been suggested for all British car owners to participate in this effort. Saturday August 11 has been set aside for that purpose. What we will be doing as a club will be determined at the next meeting. For more information go to the following website: [http://www.mossmotors.com/graphics/emailers/british/EPK\\_THEDRIVE\\_2012\\_X2.pdf](http://www.mossmotors.com/graphics/emailers/british/EPK_THEDRIVE_2012_X2.pdf)





## CAR OF THE YEAR (COTY) AWARD

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, etc.) where you participate with your Healey. Events need not be listed in the Club's newsletter to earn points. The participant is responsible for providing proof of participation (entrance fee receipt, photo,

corroboration from other club members etc.) to the COTY Recorder, Rick Snover (619-980-4194 [ricksnover@earthlink.net](mailto:ricksnover@earthlink.net)) within 30 days after the event. AHCSO events will have a sign-in sheet that will be forwarded to the recorder. For members with multiple eligible vehicles, be sure to indicate which one(s) you drove.

COTY points currently approved by the Board are: AHCSO Meetings & Tech Sessions 4pts; AHCSO Driving Events, Parties, etc. 6pts; AHCSO Healeys on the Green 8pts; California Healey Week, Healey Rendezvous and Austin Healey Conclave 16pts; S.D. British Car Day and Rolling B.C.D. 10pts; other multi-day British-themed events 8pts; other multi-day events 4pts; other one-day British-themed events 4pts; other one-day events 2pts. Other non-Healey British-built cars earn half points, but are not eligible to win the award.

All points received during the year by all members will be worth a discount towards the purchase of AHCSO regalia during the subsequent year. The total point leader at the end of the year will receive the coveted CAR OF THE YEAR badge for display on their Healey for the following year.

### 2012 CotY Standings (as of 7/20/2012)

<u>Members</u>	<u>Car</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Car</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Stark, H&L	AH 3000 BT7	108	Felt, J&L	AH Sprite AN5	12
Galper, L.	AH 100 BN2	58	Turner, C&S	AH 3000 Mk II BT7	10
Humphreys, B&B	AH 3000 BT7	58	Cacciatore, C.	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	8
Farnsworth, B&S	AH 3000 Mk II BT7	52	Cowan, T & Lisa M	AH Sprite AN5 Speedwell	8
Snover, R&A	AH 3000 Mk II BT7	52	Humphreys, B&B	Jensen Healey	8
Talbert, S.	AH Sprite AN5	50	Matheus, E.	AH Sprite AN5	8
Neumeyer, E&A	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	48	McGee, J.	AH 100 BN2	8
Newman, D&C	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	34	Pleasant, M.	AH Sprite (Modified)	8
Tabachki, N&N	AH 100-6 BN6	34	Valle, E.	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	8
Voth, W.	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	34	Kirby, S&D	MG	7
McVeety, J&K	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	28	Leon, S&L	AH Sprite AN5	6
Williams, M&D	AH 3000 Mk II BT7	28	Sharp, C&D	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	6
Cowan, T & Lisa M	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	24	Snover, A&R	Mini Cooper	6
Linde, C.	AH 100 BN2	24	Galper, L.	Jaguar Mk II	4
McHarris, G.	AH 100 BN2	24	Galper, L.	Jaguar XJ6	4
Durham, D.	Hot Wheels Healey	22	Hess, G&M	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	4
Putzke, U&G	AH 3000 Mk II BT7	22	Kind, K.	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	4
Brewer, N.	Jensen Healey	16	Schmidt, D&J	AH 100-6 BN6	4
Davies, R&S	AH 100 BN2	16	Turner, C&S	Jaguar XJ	4
Davies, R&S	AH 100 BN2 (Mod.)	16	Watt, S&S	AH 3000 Mk II BT7	4
Kwiat, G&S	AH 100-6 BN4	16	Turner, C&S	Aston-Martin	3
Dolphin, M.	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	14	Galper, L.	Jaguar 3.8S	2
Abel, P.	AH Sprite AN5	12	Pendleton, J&L	AH 3000 Mk III BJ8	2





# PUTZKES AT CONCLAVE

*By Udo Putzke*

Gisela and I decided to go to Louisville a long time in advance. Former president of the AHCS D Tom and his wife Ernestine now live in Tennessee and we haven't seen them in a long time. Tom and Ernestine Lucky were the first people we ran into from the AH scene in SD. Driving through Poway, chasing yard sales on a Saturday, (something new to German Imports) we spotted a red AH rear fender sticking out of the garage. Spontaneous as I am, I swung my rainbow colored VW into the driveway, jumped out and said, "that's a Healey". Tom & Ernestine looked at us like we were from another planet, but gave us a warm welcome and showed us their Healey. We have been friends ever since.

Since Louisville is close to Chattanooga, we flew in to Chattanooga and spent our first night with the Luckys. The next day the four of us drove up to Louisville. The weather was hot, sticky, humid and on the last mile we even got a nice thunderstorm with standing traffic and water on the freeway. My mind went to the AH driver on the road. "Welcome to Kentucky."

At the hotel we checked in, got our registration and Bourbon cake for early registration and started to relax. Not! That wasn't possible, we had to set up our "FAHRSPASS" display. Talking and selling was a big part of our time here. Most attendees walk through the regalia room after picking up their registration and this provides a good opportunity to talk cars or shocks. Most people know us, but I can't remember all the names we have met over the years. Thanks to everyone.

Later in the day I checked out the cars in the hotel parking lot. Many fine Healeys made their way to Conclave. The opening reception had a nice touch of KY horse race history, also showing concourse cars, "Grace" and a custom build aluminum 100-S body on display. Louisville, known for the KY derby, presented the attending AH clubs with their own "SILKS" and gave us all a lot of time to chat, and connect with old and new friends.

On race day, since we didn't bring our Healey, we decided on not going to the track. It would hurt too much. We spent the time to explore the limestone cave and cold war protection shelter in Louisville. Impressive if you don't know what I mean check this website: [http://www.hellolouisville.com/attractions/louisville\\_mega\\_cavern\\_an\\_underground\\_adventure/199433/](http://www.hellolouisville.com/attractions/louisville_mega_cavern_an_underground_adventure/199433/)

The car show was set up on the Ohio River Park near downtown Louisville. With 230+ cars attending, the Kentucky Healey Clubs did a great job to get all cars down and parked before we arrived to start picking our choice of 'best in class', 'best in show' and 'most like to go home with'. BJ8-7 represented the largest class.

Weather you ask? Hot sticky, humid, and the places under the freeway bridges (shade) were rare. Ice cream melted before you could get your tongue on it to taste. Gisela and Ernestine took off to explore downtown shopping street, mall, center, without luck. They made a nice bus tour, but didn't find any stores. Lucky me, no dollars spent.

*Continued on Page 17*



# JUSTICE

42 years late but still

# JUSTICE!

I was watching Chasing Classic Cars on TV last week. Wayne Carini was taking a couple of Volkswagens to the Bonham's auction in Connecticut. The DMV was hasseling them about the VIN plates on the cars. It seems in order to do a proper restoration these VIN plates need to be taken off and replaced when the work is finished. The inspectors were concerned about the new rivets in the plates and Bonham's was having to authenticate each car. In the end the authorities were satisfied and the auction proceeded without further incident.

I thought this was all much ado about nothing and the DMV were being nit picking buttheads. But the authorities were serious and Bonham's was doing back flips to make



everything work out.

I have, however, changed my thinking a bit. Recently in an article on C/NET there was a story about a Bob Russell who parked

his Austin Healey 3000 (*much like this one pictured here*) just outside Philadelphia 42 years ago and when he came back out it was gone. All the king's men and all the king's horses could not find his car. It was gone!

Fast forward 42 years. Bob has married his sweetheart and now lives in Dallas. Browsing E-Bay one day he sees something familiar. There is his car! Up for auction. He swings into action having all the paperwork and the key still tucked away in a desk drawer. He contacts one of those nit picking buttheads and gets his car back. For 42 years someone else has had the pleasure of driving his car but now Bob has it back, a little tired but it is still a Healey and it's still wonderful!

There are a couple of morals here that I can see. First, faith, persistence, and diligence pays off sooner or later. Second, those nit picking buttheads are the good guys even though sometimes we want to wring their necks.

I ask myself if there is an upside to this story. Well, maybe. If Bob's Healey had not been stolen that night he still would have married his sweetheart

and about 5 years later he would have sold his beloved Healey when their first child arrived. He would have looked at that child for the rest of his life and thought, "You are the reason I had to sell my Healey." That child would have grown up feeling alienated and rejected and would probably have gone to England and blown up British Leyland. . . .Oh, well. . . .





*Continued from Page 15*

A Funkhana was setup in the hotel parking lot, so no need to drive around town. Playing polo with a horse is hard, but the horse and rider know what they're doing. Playing polo with a car, with the co-driver giving commands to the driver and the driver interpreting them to the car is not that easy.

Later in the day I spotted a group of people gathering around a Healey in the shade. As I found out later, this car had been towed in on the first day and had not run since then. I stuck my nose into the crowd and listen to the suggestions, directions, and tips from the bystanders.

Impatient as I am, I stepped in ask some questions about the problem. They had tried everything and it still wasn't running. Something mysterious here. Pushing the starter button let the car run, as soon the button was released, the motor died. *Lucas, the Prince of Darkness!!* But this time it was a Pertronix problem. It was set with a 5-6mm gap between the Magnet carrier and Black box. This gap needs to be 0.5mm-0.8mm. After fixing this, the car started and ran at idle. A loud cheer went up in the parking lot.

That evening, at the reception, there was glow strips on the table for decoration and someone made a ring out of this and set it on my head as a "halo." I hope the owner made it home after the event without more problems. Problems during long drives will result in losing interest in driving the cars for long distances and they end up becoming 'trailer queens'.

Also at the the Funkhana one participant lost his brake pressure at the finish line. Cruising to a safe parking spot, he called his mechanic for help. While he was on the phone I could see brake fluid dripping on the left front wheel. I told him he had a broken hard brake line on his front left wheel. This he passed on to his Mechanic in Alabama by phone.

Here is that phone conversation:

**Mechanic:** "You know this guy?"

**Owner:** "No" and grabbing my name tag, he read to the mechanic "Udo Putzke"

**Mechanic:** "Ask him if he has a Mercedes."

**Owner:** "Do you have a Mercedes?" **Udo:** "Yes" **Owner to mechanic:** "He says Yes"

**Mechanic to Owner:** "Is this car published in the Star Magazine?" (Star Magazine is the Mercedes-Benz Club of America Magazine) **Owner to Udo:** "Is this car in a Magazine?"

**Udo:** "Yes" **Mechanic:** "You can trust him; I am just sitting here reading his article in the Star Magazine"

It turns out his mechanic is German, and used to work for MB in the Alabama plant and is now running his own repair business. So, after having a new hard line made by the 501 Auto club from Louisville, I installed it and without additional bleeding we had a hard brake pedal and one more happy camper (especially his wife). For bleeding I just used the well working gravity feeding process. If you'd like to know how this works, ask me next time you see me.

In conclusion, the 2012 Conclave was another well organized event. Gisela and I enjoyed the time with our friends Tom and Ernestine Lucky. We look forward to seeing you all at one of the next Austin Healey meetings.

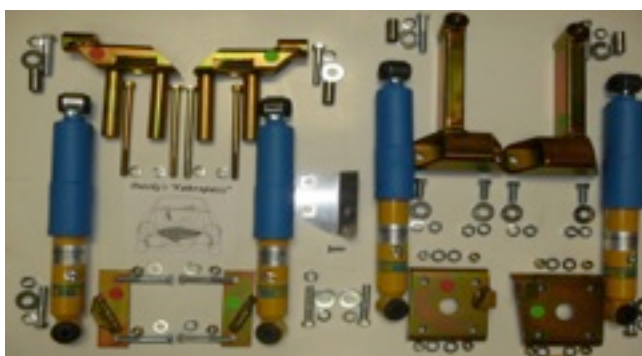




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