

# HEALEY HEARSAY

Official Publication of the

*Austin-Healey*

Club of San Diego

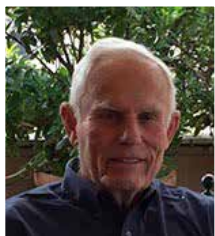


## In This Issue:

- Feb 4th Super bowl Party at the Benke's
- Feb 24th Hawk Watch 2018

**February 2018**

## From The Editor:



My favorite catalogue is from the J. Peterman Company. You might already be thinking..."what does this have to do with Austin Healeys?" Simple... Peterman's catalogue lead statement is "People want things that are hard to find.

*Things that have romance, but a factual romance, about them.* He follows this with, "I had this proven to me all over again when people actually stopped me in the street (in New York, in Tokyo, in London) to ask me where I got the coat I was wearing." Change that to "the car I was driving."

In addition, the copy that goes with his catalogue items is romantic, but *factually so (his words)*. The text reminds me of lines from the all time favorite movie "Casablanca" with Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. "We'll always have Paris," (make that Warwick). You know what's coming. And you can't get enough of it. I've lost count of how many times I've watched this chestnut. And it's a great incentive for me to travel...

Austin Healeys, are kind of like that. I'll prove it to you, (although I probably don't need to...) Several years ago, my Healey was hobbled and grazing in the Ralph's Rancho San Diego parking lot, while I was inside picking up a few victuals. When I returned, the following note was under the windshield, (opps...wind screen) blade... "Hi!...I just wanted you to know your car brought a smile to my face. My boyfriend had one of these in 1969-1970 and it was the first car I ever drove on the freeway. What a great machine... My cars' the clunker Honda next to your classic"... In my minds eye she left a photo and phone number attached to the note. In reality, her Honda had already left. Many of us may have a similar story, or foggy fantasy.

You can bet your badge bar I would never have received this note if I was driving a Prius. Especially the new 2017 Prius Prime, which is powered with a suitcase sized battery. They seem designed and destined for urban life where transportation is a drudge getting you from your veal pen on the 24th floor to the latest show or trendy perch for the evening. And maybe by not driving at all. I might do the same.

*Continued on page 11.*

## February Meeting...

**February 4th at the Benke's  
Super Bowl Party**



**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](http://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](http://www.sdhealey.org), or contact our Membership Coordinator, Vice President Rick Snover ([ricksnover@earthlink.net](mailto:ricksnover@earthlink.net)) for details and

## 2017 AHCS D Board Members

**President-** Terry Cowan (619) 475-7937 [terry@toyshop-resto.com](mailto:terry@toyshop-resto.com)  
**VP, Membership-** Don Benke 619-778-1680 [dgbenke@cox.net](mailto:dgbenke@cox.net)  
**Secretary-** Rick Snover [ricksnover@earthlink.net](mailto:ricksnover@earthlink.net)  
**Treasurer-** Gary Stalker 858-668-7154 [ngstalker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ngstalker@sbcglobal.net)  
**Activities-** Bob Farnsworth 760-787-5737 [bobsues@sv-mail.com](mailto:bobsues@sv-mail.com)  
Lou Galper 619-297-0626 [lgalper1@cox.net](mailto:lgalper1@cox.net)  
**Newsletter Editor-** Warren Voth (619) 368-3895 [vothstir@aol.com](mailto:vothstir@aol.com)

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**COTY Recorder-** Rick Snover [ricksnover@earthlink.net](mailto:ricksnover@earthlink.net)  
**Web Master-** Rick Snover [sdhealey\\_admin@sdhealey.org](mailto:sdhealey_admin@sdhealey.org)  
**Delegate, Austin Healey Club of America-**  
Mike Williams (858) 496-0546 [healeymike@earthlink.net](mailto:healeymike@earthlink.net)  
**Representative, San Diego British Car Club Council-**  
Terry Cowan (619) 475-7937 [terry@toyshop-resto.com](mailto:terry@toyshop-resto.com)  
**Representative, Car Club Council of Greater San Diego Vacant**

## 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:

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

**On The Cover:** Healey High Priest Curt Arndt ministers sage knowledge to Alejandra & Kevin Schumacher on their 1955 BN1.

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

Some people pay more than £6,000  
for a sports car.

Others prefer to spend £1,107  
for an Austin Healey.



## Who needs to go faster than 130 mph?

At a recent count there were close to 20 people in Britain lucky enough (and wealthy enough) to own one of the fastest sports cars in the world. It costs more than £6,000.

A great many more motorists content themselves with a sporting 130 mph (the top speed of the Austin Healey 3,000) at a fraction of the price—£1,107.3.9, including £192.3.9 purchase tax.

Much has happened to the 3000 in the past year. Brake horsepower is up from 137 bhp at 4,750 rpm to 148 bhp at 5,250 rpm. Gear ratios and the twin carburetors have been modified to accommodate the extra power. Walnut and leather facings and a fold-away rear seat add luxury and convenience to an already superb interior.

Production of the first 3000 series (Mark I) was begun in 1959. Since then the Austin Healey has accumulated thirty-four class wins in competitions around the world. This year's version (Mark III) won the Spa-Sofia-Liège Rally outright.

Its 2,912 cc engine will never win you a Grand Prix. But acceleration from zero to 50 mph (with disc brakes for safety) takes a mere seven seconds. And response from third gear is breathtaking.

Who needs to win a Grand Prix when an Austin Healey can do all that?

### AUSTIN



By Appointment to  
Her Majesty The Queen  
The Austin Motor  
Company Limited



THE BRITISH MOTOR CORPORATION

### Minutes – Austin Healey Club of San Diego Monthly Meeting Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at Main Stream Bar & Grill

President Terry Cowan called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

**There were 18 members in attendance:** Don Benke, Terry Cowan, Lex Dunn, Bob & Carol Farnsworth, Lou GalperB, Eric Graves, Dave Grundies, Bob HumphreysB, Udo & Gisela Putzke, Rick & Allie Snover, Gary Stalker, Howard StarkH, Warren Voth, new members Violette Walter (RB) & Bruce Hetrick (Wisconsin).HDrove Healey BDrove other British car

**Membership:** VP Don Benke reported that 40 or the Club's 70 memberships have been renewed. A renewal reminder will be sent by email.

**Treasury:** Treasurer Gary Stalker reported that the Club's balance remains stable. The Christmas Party cost the Club under \$700. Dues are coming in.

**Activities:** Lou Galper & Bob Farnsworth

- A good time was had by all at the Christmas Party.
- The Club's annual Super Bowl Party will be at the Benkes' house on February 4, starting at 1PM. There will be a Chili Cook-off.
- Ramona Hawk Watch: Saturdays in January & February – The Club will attend on February 24th. Meet at Regent Ranch on Highland Valley Rd at 9:30 AM. To be followed by a drive and lunch.
- Tech Sessions: Early March – maybe a combined session to work on Benkes' alternator, Farnsworths' car (?), Starks' steering wheel and windshield... Udo & Terry are coordinating.
- The Club's annual Wildflowers Drive to Borrego Springs will be on Sunday, March 18th.

**Editor:** Warren Voth confirmed that he is "still having fun", so he'll continue as Editor for the time being.\*

#### Open Discussion:

Sites and days for future meetings were discussed: Mimi's on Mira Mesa Blvd is a possibility, maybe on a Saturday over breakfast or brunch.

Mike & Delia Williams are planning to attend the Super Bowl Party.

The monthly prize of \$15 went to new member Violette Walter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Snover, AHCSA Secretary.

*\* it's more fun when when the editor gets input on a timely basis...Ed.*

## February 4th Super Bowl Party

This year's Super Bowl Party will be at Don & Patricia Benke's home, 4775 Yerba Santa Dr., San Diego, - Ca 92115, beginning at 1:00 PM on Sunday February 4th. (Kick-off is at 3:15 PM.)

Men, bring your best chili to enter in the cook-off. Prizes will be awarded at half-time in four categories: Hottest, Mildest, Most Unusual, and Best Overall. Entrants should be sure to arrive well before kick-off to give the judges a chance to taste their chili.

Everybody else, bring a side dish or dessert to share, and whatever adult beverages you like. (The Club usually provides soft drinks and ice.)

### **CLUB MEMBERSHIP DUES PAST DUE?...**

Members with outstanding dues have been passed on to *Vito's Protection & Collections*. Avoid this sweet guy... Get your dues to Don Benke *quickly*...

### ***We're All Members of the Activities Committee***

- Do you enjoy the club's events and drives?
- Do you know of a great place that SDAH Members might enjoy?
- Do you want to share a favorite drive you've made in your Healey?
- Do you have a favorite luncheon or dinner place that would make a good venue for a SDAH gathering?
- Think about sponsoring one of our monthly events.
- Please contact me to find out what's involved or just to talk about it.

Lou Galper  
619-287-0626  
LGalper1@cox.net

## FREE EVENT

## February 24th HAWK WATCH

Visit the Ramona Grasslands with the Wildlife Research Institute's HAWK WATCH in Ramona for our RAPTOR CELEBRATION. Please see Page 6



## California Healey Week 2018 Update – Jan. 7, 2018

- In just two weeks of open registrations, we already have 30 parties registered for CHW 2018 in Solvang. There is a limit on room availability at the Hotel Corque, therefore if you haven't yet registered, we recommend you do so soon. We will be working on identifying additional hotels nearby for overflow.
- There has been some confusion about the registration fees...which is a bit unclear. There is a basic registration fee of \$125 for the Car & Driver, basically the first person in a party. For each additional person, there is a Guest fee of \$100. Thus, for a party of two, the registration fee is \$225.
- The fee for the Mendelhall Museum visit on Friday evening includes both entry and the BBQ dinner (includes soft drinks). A wine and beer (no host) bar is available.

• **July 15 - 20** French Lick IN Conclave 2018  
Back Home Again in Indiana Hosted by the  
Central Indiana AHC

• **October 4 -7** Charleston SC Southeastern Classic XXII, Patriots Point, Hosted by the Carolinas Austin-Healey Club, SEClassic2018@gmail.com





# HAWK WATCH 2018

FREE EVENT!

## WHO:

You! Bring the whole family. Join us and become a WRI Member for this **free**, educational program rewarding for ALL ages! Bring the kids!

## WHAT:

Visit the Ramona Grasslands with the Wildlife Research Institute's HAWK WATCH in Ramona for our RAPTOR CELEBRATION. You can observe both our wintering and resident raptors. You will see raptors such as the Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, the wintering Ferruginous Hawk, the Red-tailed Hawk, Prairie Falcon and the Red-shouldered Hawk, and Burrowing Owl. Nineteen (19) species of raptors alone have been recorded at this Raptor Hotspot! You will learn the life-histories of these hawks and eagles and the significance of the Ramona Grassland ecosystem to the raptors' survival from WRI Biologists. There will be information and demonstrations of WRI's 28 year research on Golden Eagles. In addition to raptors at the Grasslands, we will have several trained raptors and owls for you to observe! This is a wonderful opportunity to see these magnificent birds up close. **FREE!**

## WHEN: SATURDAYS IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

January 6,13,20,27 & February 3, 10,17,24

New start time: the program begins promptly at 10 AM,  
we recommend you arrive by 9:30

*Come rain or shine...we never cancel!*

## WHERE: Beautiful Begent Ranch at the Ramona Grasslands

18528 Highland Valley Road Ramona, California 10AM-1PM

[www.wildlife-research.org](http://www.wildlife-research.org)

The Wildlife Research Institute is a non-profit organization whose mission includes educating the public about conservation and wildlife appreciation. Bring binoculars if you have them, however we will have scopes for your use. Join us at the Begent Ranch, just 1 mile west from the intersection of highway 67 and Highland Valley Road. Ample parking is available, just follow the signs. Refreshments, coffee, rolls, and doughnuts are provided!

### Directions:

**From the south & west**, Take Highway 67 to Ramona and turn North (left turn) on Highland Valley Road for 1 miles and look for our signs, HAWK WATCH, on the right, 18528 Highland Valley Road.

**From the north**, take Highway 78 to Ramona Main Street (Hwy 67) turn right, proceed 3 miles to Highland Valley Road turn north (right turn) for 1 mile and look for our sign, HAWK WATCH.

**For large groups or additional information call 760-765-1957**

**The Wildlife Research Institute, Inc is a federal and state 501 (c)(3) non-profit dedicated to wildlife research, conservation, and education and is located in San Diego County.**



## Austin-Healey Association of Southern California

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 [Newsletters](#) | 
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 [Photo Albums](#) | 
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 [Club Links](#) | 
 [Regalia](#) | 
 [CHW 2018 Solvang](#)

[Home](#) > [Events](#) > [California Healey Week 2018](#) > **Registration**

### EVENT REGISTRATION - PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Event:** California Healey Week 2018

**When:** Wednesday, October 17, 2018 to Sunday, October 21, 2018

**Where:** The Hotel Corque  
400 Alisal Rd.  
Solvang, CA

**Contact:** Michael Scroggie  
mscroggie@aol.com

**Payment:** Payment In Advance Only

Are you a Club Member?

[Login to Register](#)

[Recover Username/Password](#)

### Personal Information

[Have you previously registered for an event or are you on our mailing list? Click here to search](#)

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City

State/Province

Zip/Postal Code

Country  [Show All Countries](#)

Phone

Email Address

Organization

Title

### Registrant Type

- ☒ Driver (Includes Car)  
☐ I'm Not Attending and I'm Registering Someone Else  
☐ I'm Already Registered and I'm Registering Someone Else



### California Healey Week 2018

Solvang, CA

**October 17-21, 2018**

Get ready for great sports cars, food, wine tasting, friends and a beautiful location...California Healey Week 2018, hosted by the Austin Healey Association of Southern California, will be held in Solvang, California from Wednesday, **October 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**. The event will be headquartered at the Hotel Corque in downtown Solvang, see [www.hotelcorque.com](http://www.hotelcorque.com). Registrations are now open for the event, for details and registration see [www.austin-healey.org](http://www.austin-healey.org).

The historic Danish village of Solvang offers the best of the Santa Ynez Valley and [Santa Barbara wine country](#) in a relaxed and peaceful setting. Indulge in authentic Danish pastries at the world-famous bakeries. Stroll through the village and admire the old-world European architecture, plus find the perfect souvenir at a variety of [charming boutiques and shops](#).

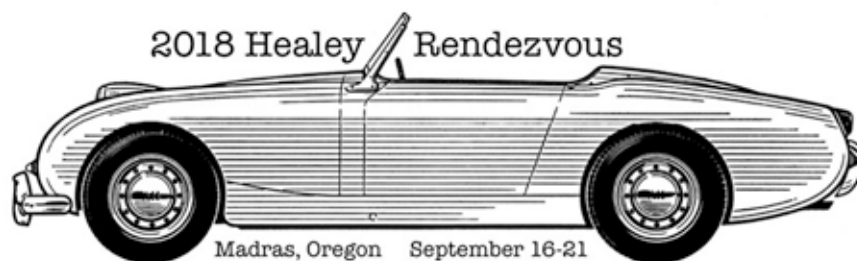


Fall is typically beautiful in the Santa Ynez Valley. We plan to have some beautiful drives through back roads in the Valley, with the option of visiting several of the many vineyards for wine tasting. In addition to Solvang, we will visit Buellton, Los Olives and other locations in the valley.

We also plan a visit to the [Mendenhall's Museum](#), which is one of the largest collections on the west coast of gasoline pumps, petroliana, road signs, license plates, race cars, racing history, miscellaneous antiques. You will be able to roam through their extensive displays of automobile antiques and collectables, with an extensive history of auto racing, especially the pursuit of the 200 MPH records at Bonneville.







## JANUARY UPDATE



The presentation team for the Rendezvous has been busy planning and coordinating and generally preparing for a great event in Madras in September. The big news this month is that ...

### Registration is now open

The registration form is available on the event website:

[HealeyRendezvous.org](http://HealeyRendezvous.org)

Just scroll down to the REGISTRATION & LODGING section.

We urge you to get your registration in early as the more of you who come to the party, the more enhancements we'll be able to add. And we're all about enhancements.

Reid Trummel  
Classic Car Activist

## FEBRUARY AHCSDBIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### BIRTHDAYS

Terry Cowan.....4  
Mike MacLean.....4  
Don Benke.....8  
Micky Pleasant.....11

### ANNIVERSARIES

Kevin & Alejandra Schumacher....2/7/15  
Richard & Ada Stevens.....2/24/57  
Neil & Nancy Tabachki.....2/25/95

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### Shock absorber conversion Kit for:

**Big Healeys \$ 949 / \$ 999** (BJ8 Ph2)

**Bugeye Sprite \$ 590**

**Jensen-Healey \$ 455** (2 front & 2 rear shocks)

Front and rear, with brackets and all hardware.  
Bolt-on, no frame modifications required.

### Polyurethane bushings

For all Healeys, front lower and upper suspension, rear leaf spring eye, Sway-bar link. Individually available.  
Check our web page for prices.

Electronic Ignition for all 4- and 6-cylinder Healey's.  
\$109 for positive ground. \$96 for negative ground.

### NEW Rear spring Anti twist shock kit for the AH 100-4 to BJ7

Car Bra, custom made for BN1 to BJ8 + Bugeye Sprite.  
Black \$255                      Color \$305

**Plastic Knock-off Hammer. \$75**  
No more dents or scratch on your Wing nuts.

For more details, prices and pictures, please visit:  
[www.putzkes-fahrspass.com](http://www.putzkes-fahrspass.com)

Club discount on order of three or more shock kits.

**Drive your HEALEY safer and with more confidence!**

*Continued from page 2.*

Austin Healeys are designed for the rest of us who want our lives to be the way we *wished* they were... the open road, the mystery around the next bend, the mineral smell of hot Castrol, the hypnotic drone of a straight six, (or four) too close to our feet, starlight overhead and city lights in the distance... It's more fun to imagine ourselves on the Tulip Rallye or maybe just vanquishing the Alps with Pat Moss as navigator...chatting about the evenings stop, dinner with fellow re-counters, talk about the quality of the local wines.. "the beginning of a beautiful friendship", *gag, gag...yadda, yadda...*

While we may lament the spotty quality of our loved (or *cursed*) cars, it is a major reason that they still retain cult status. There are just the right amount left. If they were as common as Toyota trucks, and as trouble free, and lasted as long, would we not be rolling them over cliffs, just to get rid of them?

Indifference is our friend. It has given our cars cult mystique by limiting survivors. In previous years, Healeys have been driven in the rain, left in the sun to dry the weather soaked leather upholstery. Unbeknown to their owners, rusting rocker panels have been packed with road grime, the trailing edges of the front fenders are now stuffed with silt and blacktop are silently rusting away. Mud is now packed between the inner sills of the rear fender dog legs with rust waiting to burst through the surface. The un-noticed rubber bumpers have fallen out of the lower trunk (opps...boot) opening lip, allowing water to pour in and rust out the (opps again boot) floor and gas tank, at the same time. (That car, now returned to the Empire's earth, could be a double bagger, as it is actually is adding value to the car you could own some day in the future, as a surviving relic.) Water pumps have not been lubed. Valves are not being timed. Armstrong shock absorbers are leaking and running dry. Frames are rusting, outriggers crack, sills sag, causing doors to slump and not close. All the while your future car has been driven in it's past life like Sir Sterling Moss is in the cockpit. It's obvious to see how this works out, right...

As fortune, fate, (*dumb luck, perhaps*) and British Layland, have carefully planned, just the right amount of Healeys have been saved from returning to the Queen's Earth as iron and aluminum oxide.

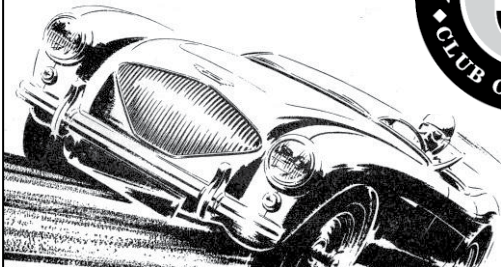
*Continued on page 12.*



## AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB OF AMERICA

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

- **HEALEY MARQUE** magazine, our award-winning, all-color, 40-page, 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.
- Please visit our website where you can learn more and join online:  
**[www.healeyclub.org](http://www.healeyclub.org)**



*continued from page 11.*

Moss Motors, Victoria British, Denis Welch, Southern Carburetor, Cape International, etc, etc. were providently formed to save the remaining relics of the Empire. Because "*People want things that are hard to find. Things that have romance, but a factual romance, about them.*" We mortals are now able to restore Austin Healeys from piles of rust, fallen in the dust of the Crown's creation, from foot size holes in floor pans.

We should rate restorations, not by points or distance, gold or silver (a 10 foot car or a 98 point car) but by beer. Shouldn't a 300 beer car be rewarded over a 100 beer car? Much more egalitarian and personally rewarding...

Overshadowing us all are the Healey family, benevolently smiling down on us like saints, from Michaelangelo like frescoes in the Sistine Chapel. And there below are we, bathed in a warm, lovely golden light, restoring and cursing away, but eternally fortified by their memory and the above mentioned after market suppliers, who supply the magic to keep our cars and hopefully a part of our lives, *what we wish them to be.*

So there you have it...The real Healey history in one short screed...Who said "predictions are difficult to make, especially about the future"? Lets hope it stays that way...

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## 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.

### 2018 CotY Standings (as of January 20)

Member	Car	Pts
Stark, H & L	AH3000	10
Benke, D & P	AH 3000 Mk3	6
Shumaker, K & A	AH 100	6
Stalker, G & N	AH 100	6
Voth, W	AH 3000 Mk3	6
Galper, L	Jaguar XJ6	5
Humphries, B & B	Jensen	5

<sup>1</sup>2017 CotY Winner, not eligible to win in 2018



moSS

# THIS IS WHO WE ARE



## DELIVERING QUALITY SINCE 1948

David Williams  
R & D Shop Supervisor  
ASE Master Technician  
*Moss employee since 2005*

David Aidnik  
Chief Engineer  
*Moss employee since 2013*

Mike Vickers  
Product Quality  
Assurance Supervisor  
*Moss employee since 1986*

We take pride in being fussy. Take our Classic Gold brake shoes for example. Before being called Classic Gold, we improved the original stock design, then had them manufactured, inspected, trial fitted and tested on the road. Accept nothing less than the best. We don't.

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P.O. Box 17101  
San Diego CA 92117

**February Monthly Meeting**  
**February 4th at the Benke's**  
**Super Bowl Party**

