



BONNEVILLE BANTER

Monthly Newsletter of the Bonneville Austin-Healey Club



July, 2012

www.bonnevillehealeyclub.org

Vol. 29 No. 7

President' Message

Yesterday was our family reunion. Well, my mother's side of the family. It was held in Bear River City, Utah, which is where they originated. My understanding of family reunions is to reconnect with aunts, uncles, and cousins that perhaps you only see once a year at the family reunion. Everyone brings a picnic meal for their individual family and it gets placed on the buffet table in categories such as meats, salads, side dishes, breads, desserts. We then get to try the different recipes from each family.



We are reminded of the Swedish and Danish heritage of the family, and the hardships and struggles they endured in those early times. But, as aunts and uncles die, the interest wanes. We are all getting older and our younger generations don't seem to have the same connection to family as we older ones do. We used to take pride in our recipes and presentation; but it has come down to plunking a cardboard box with fried chicken on the table and calling that "good enough."

This brings me to our Austin-Healeys and the club. We older ones remember the fun times we had in these Healeys in the '50s and '60s. The fun road races (sanctioned) and the road racing up and down our beautiful canyon roads; the weekend cruises up and down the main streets; and the drive-in movies. We want to preserve and enjoy these machines. But let's face it, the newer cars' handling, comfort, and features are far superior. But the beauty of these Austin-Healeys will never be surpassed.

Now how do we pass these feelings on to the younger generations? They certainly cannot imagine the fun we have had in these Healeys and we continue to have in spite of "some discomfort."

Keep 'em rolling,
Ann

FROM THE EDITOR:

Do you have your registration for Healey Days in? If not there is a form in this edition of the



Bonneville Banter. Let's see if we can have as good of a turnout for Healey Days as we did at the recent British Field Day.

On the subject of BFD, I stole some pictures from the BMCU website, as well as from the photo gallery of the BAHC website. You can see them here or follow the links given for more pictures.

This month we profile Jim Thornton. He has been a mainstay for the Bonneville Austin Healey Club since the club began.

There is an announcement of a car show at the Eaglewood Golf Course on July 2nd that you may want to attend.

See you at the meeting on the 10th. Be sure and bring your auction items and something for the raffle.

Happy Healeying,
Dave

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Bonneville Austin-Healey Club

2012 Activities Schedule

July
7/10 Meeting @ Red Robin
Healey Days in Park City 7/27-29
Tech Session TBA

August

Utah Concours unknown date or interest in going
8/14 Meeting @ Joe Morley's
Tech Session TBA
8/18 Trip to Keith Mott's for a barbecue. More information to follow.

September

9/11 Meeting @ Red Robin
Tech Session TBA

October

10/5 - 8 Trip to Torrey, Zion Lead by Jim Revel
10/9 Meeting @ Joe Morley's
Tech Session TBA
10/14 Trip to Mirror Lake/Evanston

November

11/13 Nominations meeting @ Red Robin
Tech Session TBA

December

12/1 Christmas Party, place TBD

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Festival of Speed

Monday, July 2nd, at 7:00pm until 9:00pm

Eaglewood Golf Course

Located at intersection of Eagle Ridge Drive and Eaglewood Drive in North Salt Lake.

Vehicles will be displayed on **turf.**

Exhibitors, look for the flags.

Visitor parking will be in the club house parking lots.

Helicopter will fly in about 7:15pm

Trials motorcycles will be climbing rocks nearby.

Free, no registration, fun, informal, friendly, bring the family.

Invite a friend to bring a vehicle to display.

Any special or interesting vehicle can be displayed.

Classics, exotics, antiques, pony, motorcycles, trucks, exotics, helicopters, whatever is interesting or special.

All are welcome

Exhibitors should arrive between 6:00 pm and 6:45 pm.

Hungry? Grab a bite to eat at the Eaglewood Café in the club house.

We'll be celebrating 60 years of Lotus cars.

Bonneville Austin Healey Club

Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2012

Ann Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.
Meeting was held at Joe Morley's.

In Attendance: Ann Lewis, Dave and Sandy Maxwell, Merlin Judkins, Ernie Reno, Jim Revel, Bob Riemenschneider, Don Colman, Joe Morley, Jim Thornton, Allen Brown, and Carol and Craig Mossberg.

Treasurer's Report: The current balance remains at \$5,509.40.

Membership: There are 48 paid members.

Editor's Report: Dave has Jim Thornton's "Member Profile" article for the July Newsletter. Bob Jahnke is next and his submission is due by 7/25/12 or sooner. The Healey Streamliner will return for World of Speed held September 8th through September 11th. A 10'x20' or 2-10'X10' pop-up tent shelters are needed for this event. If anyone can supply, contact Dave Maxwell.

Activities: British Field Day is Saturday, June 16th at Liberty Park in Salt Lake City. Registration is 8:00 AM with the show running from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Set up is Friday at 6:00 PM.

Healey Days are July 27th- 29th in Park City. If you haven't done so, please make reservations at Shadow Ridge quickly. Currently, there are 8 cars registered for the

show. There will not be the “Golden” or “Rusty Wrench” Awards this year and these will be replaced by a third “Class Award” for Austin Healeys. Jim Revel will approach the Jaguar Club about sharing the cost of the trophies and street rental this year.

There has been limited interest in the September Torrey trip with only 3 couples signed up. The trip will be rescheduled until October 5th-6th and 7th to see if more participation is generated. Jim Revel will coordinate.

Other Business: Don Colman requests donation of items for the Healey Day Auction.

Dave Maxwell suggested in view of current and past members’ issues with cancer that members and/or the club consider donations to “Drive Away Cancer”. John Nikas is driving a 1953 Healey 100, known as Grace, across all 50 states in order to generate interest in and raise money to fight cancer. If interested, members can find details at www.cc.ebay.com/drive-away-cancer or on Facebook. A possible club donation will be discussed at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

I was a teenage greaser

You know, like John Travolta in the movie Grease. I had the hair, believe it or not, but I couldn’t sing. That was when you rolled a pack of Dad’s Lucky Strike cigarettes in your shirt sleeve, pulled your pants down low around the buns and drove a lead-sled.

My first sled was a ’51 Chevy. Following several wrecks, I sold it for parts and picked up a ’50 Ford flat head V-8 with overdrive for \$100.00. The term lead-sled was coined as a result of removing all the door handles and emblems, then filling the holes with lead. The car was also lowered to within a few inches from the ground. Little did I know that skills I developed in driving a lowered lead-sled would come in handy when I got a Healey.

But then in the middle of my high school days everything changed. I am sure there must have been other influences but the only one I remember was the Bugeyed Sprite being introduced to the world. It was love at first sight. This was the coolest car ever.

I had a plan. To avoid the Draft some of us joined the Army Reserves. I would save all my pay checks and buy a Bugeye when I got back. After six months earning 57.00 a month – I came up a little short. But I was hooked and had to have a sportscar.

Convincing my step-father was another issue. I was under 21 years of age and he had to cosign. I finally got him to go with me, just look, at Sports Car Center in Salt Lake. There was a used Austin Healey on the lot and a brand new 1962 MG Midget on the showroom floor. His exact words, “Why the hell would you buy a used car that is the same price as a new car”. Don’t argue – he’s open to the idea – I drove the Midget home.

One year later I was 21 years old. I inherited a little money as a result of my real father being killed in WWII. I drove back to Sports Car Center and negotiated the first major purchase on my life by myself. There was another used 1960 BT7 Healey on the lot. I tracked down a salesman, told him I wanted to trade my Midget for the Healey, and could he write it up. I paid a lot of money and it was the beginning of a life long love affair.

Affair – that leads to the next step in my life. I met ‘what’s her name’. I don’t mean my wonderful wife Sheryl. She comes along later. What’s her name and I got married and had a son. The Healey was my daily driver. I remember we placed an ad in the newspaper offering to car pool anyone needing a ride from Sandy to downtown Salt Lake. For an entire winter some poor girl laid in the back seats of my BT7 for a ride to and from work.

I held onto the Healey as long as I could. But inevitability I had to make another big decision.

I sold the Healey. In hind sight I should have kept the Healey instead of 'what's her name'.

Next chapter – all I have left is my son. The Healey is gone. The house is gone. What's her name is gone. My only vehicle was the Renault Dauphine I bought for 10.00. The last time I saw that car was when I left it in a parking lot with a dead battery. From there it was a \$50.00 MGA Roadster, then a MGA Coupe, to an MGB and a company car Pinto. Each of these had its own personality and its own long story. Except the Pinto, this car had no character whatsoever.

Remember I mentioned my wonderful wife, Sheryl? I was driving the MGB when we met. After a few dates she said, "If you don't replace the missing door window and fix the heater, I'm out of here". I did and we got married.

The next few years flew by while we bought our house, started a business, and raised our three children. But I never lost sight of Austin Healeys. Finally in the late '70s I bought another Healey 3000 to restore. I completely disassembled it and there it sat for the next few years because I didn't know how to fix it.

In the early '80s John and Henry Morrison placed an ad in the newspaper looking for fellow Healey enthusiasts. About 15 people showed up, including myself, and that was the beginning of the Bonneville Austin Healey Club.



Jim's Barn Find emerging to daylight

I bought another wrecked 1960 Healey from a guy getting divorced and desperate for money. Using parts from the first 3000 and Dave Maxwell's talents this would become the black BT7 I drive today. For the next few years several Healeys, or parts thereof, came and went. I remember two 100-4s sold to Henry Morrison that went to Albuquerque. Ernie Reno bought the 100-6 parts car.

Then I read another newspaper ad (I've got to stop reading the paper). I found a 1959 100-6 that had been sitting in a garage for 15 years. 'Sheryl's Healey' sat in my warehouse disassembled for a few more years. And then along came Dave (Maxwell). He said, "Let's git her done". This Healey, which won first in class at Utah's Concours d'Elegance, was rebuilt from the ground up by Dave Maxwell. As good as he is I know he could not have done it had I not been there to keep his coffee cup full.



The Thornton Two

Healeys have been my passion for a long time. I've never owned a Bugeyed Sprite but having his and hers black and white Healeys ain't bad. Thanks to my friends – Life is good.

Jim Thornton

**BONNEVILLE AUSTIN HEALEY
CLUB**

HEALEY DAYS

2012 Classic Sports Car Show

July 28th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cars in place by 9:30am

On lower Main Street North of 8th
Street

Wasatch Back Tour

July 29th

As you know the above is just over 2 months away and if you plan to attend we need for you to make your reservations for the show, tour and for the banquet.

The BAHC Bonneville Austin Healey Club & WMJR The Wasatch Mountain Jaguar Register are sponsoring the show again this year. Also the BMCU British Motor Club of Utah members will be invited as well as anyone that wants to Register their sports car @ \$12 each until July 15th after that the cost will increase to \$15. The maximum cars we can register this year will be 60 cars on a first come first serve basis, so get your reservations in now.

The Wasatch Back tour will be led by Dave Maxwell, at no cost, details later.

Please send me \$12 per car for each car's registration attached \$15 after 7/15. Make your checks payable to BAHC and send them with the registration. If you plan to attend the banquet at the Grubsteak at 6pm after the car show also send me \$42.00 per person. See Menu attached but no need to give me your choices as we will order individually that night.

Also if you plan to spend one or both nights in Park City make your reservation for a Shadow Ridge Condominium Hotel Room at Park City Mountain Resort immediately as All Seasons Resort Lodging will not hold any rooms without a credit card guarantee and only have hotel rooms available at a \$109 rate as the Natl. Triple Crown Soft Ball Tournament will be going on and they have already reserved most of the larger rooms. Call 1-

888-754-3279 and Reference the Bonneville Austin-Healey Club. They will charge your credit card for one night plus tax. I have signed a contract for "Rate no Block" rooms and if we don't reserve 5 or more rooms for 2 nights the rate will increase to \$115.

Also any things you could donate for the raffle after the show and for the auction after the Banquet would be appreciated.

Kevin and Marie Cowan will be distributing packets to all registrants the day of the show.

Also Susan and I will be hosting a BYOB social at our home at 2040 Mahre Drive, Park City, Utah, before dinner from 5pm to 6:30pm for any BAHC & WMJR members that will be staying in Park City on Friday July 27th. Let me know if you plan to attend so we will know how many to expect.

Jim Revel
2040 Mahre Drive
Park City, UT 84098



Congress has again passed a resolution declaring July 13, 2012 as
National Collector Car Appreciation Day

The Bonneville Austin Healey Club should plan some sort of event on the 13th, Even though it is a Friday, to celebrate our hobby.

Bring your suggestions to the July Meeting.

Healey Days Registration
July 28, 2012
10AM TO 2PM

BAHC & WMJR Classic Sports Car
Show \$12.00, \$15.00 after 7/15/12

Owner _____

Club Affiliation _____

Make and Model of
car _____

Year _____

#Cars _____ Going on Wasatch
Back Tour (No Charge)

Please make checks payable to
Bonneville Austin Healey Club
(BAHC).

_____ Coming to Banquet after the
Car Show include \$42.00 per person
in above check.

_____ Planning to attend Friday
Social at the Revel's

Send your registration form and
remittance to:

Jim Revel
2040 Mahre Drive
Park City, UT84098

WELCOME TO THE GRUB STEAK RESTAURANT

ENTRÉE SELECTIONS:

Roasted Chicken

*on a mound of red skinned mashed
potatoes*

8 oz. Prime Rib of Slow Roasted Beef

Northwestern Salmon Filet

Baby Back Pork Ribs

*slow cooked with soy, beer and garlic,
glazed with
Grub Steak barbecue sauce*

The Grub Steak Tender Cut *fresh herb butter*

*All items include your choice of
fountain drinks, coffee or tea, a trip to
the salad bar, a classic caesar salad,
or wild rice and mushroom soup as
well as a choice of baked potato,
mashed potatoes, lemon rice, steak
fries or creamed spinach and a
selection of dessert from our tray.*

British Field Day

The Bonneville Austin Healey Club had a great turnout for the 2012 edition of British Field Day.

The photos here are borrowed from the BMCU website, <http://www.bmcutah.org/2012/06/british-field-day-great-weather-and-great-cars/>

if you care to see more of the display you can go to the following link:

<http://www.bmcutah.org/2012/06/british-field-day-great-weather-and-great-cars/>

Kind of long but should put you right there.

More photos of the BFD by Jon Hanson

You can find more in the photo album on the website



Where would we park if not for the banner?



One line of BAHC cars



Where did all the Sprites come from?

BONNEVILLE AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB

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Photo by Joe Morley

The "Barn Find" now



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