



BONNEVILLE BANTER

Monthly Newsletter of the Bonneville Austin-Healey Club

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS



April, 2013

www.bonnevillehealeyclub.org

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VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Spring is here! I hope so anyway. Now the problem is what spring chore should I tackle first? The lawn & yard need all the winter residue attacked and disposed of. Several cars are in need of oil changes, washing, waxing and tune-ups. The house needs to be painted, more plants & flowers to buy and plant, the shop needs another coat of paint and I know there is more! Wow, all I had to do this winter is shovel snow & more snow. The shoveling seems so easy by contrast. Well, looking over the options, dealing with the cars has to be the obvious choice since firing up the engines, getting the tops stowed, some polish and elbow grease applied & driving around with what's left of my hair, will put a larger smile on my face than any of the above mentioned tasks. I must find a rake & paint brushes that will fit the hands of my long suffering wife, or, perhaps the "Yard Crashers" from TV will find their way to my address. The painting can probably wait 'till fall... Look for me on the road! I'll be looking for all of you on the road too!

Don Colman



events that were decided upon at the planning meeting in January. This newsletter probably will be in your inbox or mailbox too late for the Museum of Speed event on March 26th. You can still plan on the trip to Miller Motorsports Park on April 13th. Hope to see you there!

This month's Profile is by Merlin Judkins. I personally did not see his earlier Healey until he sold it to Brian Mertz. I know that the car campaigned on the vintage racing circuits for several years and Brian was voted the outstanding driver one of the years.

I have listed the early driving events again. They both sound like a lot of good times to be had. Sandy and I are using all our vacation time in order to go on both of them. We sure would like to see more club members going on these trips.

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Bonneville Austin-Healey Club

2013 Activities Schedule

Apr. 9: General Meeting, Joe Morley's BBQ, 7720 S, 100 W Center Street, Midvale, 7:30 pm

Apr. 13: Miller Motorsports Park Museum tour 10 AM. MMPM recently acquired Ford GT40 No. P-1074, one of the famous "Gulf Era" cars that were campaigned in major international sports car races during 1968-69 Lunch after the tour. Meet at the Home Depot Parking lot on 21st South (SLC) before 9:00 AM if you want to travel as a group to MMPM.

May 14: General Meeting, Red Robin, 13th S. and Foothill Dr, SLC, 7:30 pm.

May 31-Jun. 2: Trip to Cortez, CO / Mesa Verde. Ann Lewis to organize. Please see information in the March Newsletter for information on this trip and lodging reservations (that must be made by May 1)

EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

April already, has the Healey had its spring tune-up yet?

The club's activities begin to turn to the fun driving



Jun. 11: General Meeting, Joe Morley's BBQ, 7720 S, 100 W Center Street, Midvale, 7:30 pm

Jun. 15: British Field Day, Liberty Park, SLC.

June 24-28: Healey Rendezvous 2013, South Tahoe, CA, Hosted by the Golden Gate Austin Healey Club. Registration deadline is April 30, 2013. See link below for more info and registration form.

June 30 - July 3: Sun Valley road trip (TBA), Dave Maxwell to organize.

July 9: General Meeting, Red Robin, 13th S. and Foothill Drive, SLC, 7:30 p.m.

July 26-28: Healey Days, Park City (TBA)

Aug. 13, General Meeting, Joe Morley's, 7720 S, 100 W. Center St., Midvale, 7:30 pm.

Aug (?): (TBA)

Sept: 10, General Meeting, Red Robin, 13th S and Foothill Dr, SLC, 7:30 pm.

Sept. 22: Pot luck/BBQ at Jon Hanson's place, SLC (TBA)

Oct. 8, General Meeting, Joe Morley's, 7720 S, 100 W. Center St., Midvale, 7:30 pm.

Oct 12: Fall Colour Tour, Logan Canyon (TBA)

Nov. 12, General Meeting, Red Robin, 13th S. and Foothill Dr., SLC, 7:30 pm, nominations meeting

Dec. 4, Christmas Party (TBA)

Tech Sessions will be scheduled throughout the year as needed.

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MEMBER PROFILE

Merlin Judkins

My first exposure to Healey's was in the spring of 1958 in Logan, Utah. I lived on the USU campus on the corner of 7th east and 7th north.

The intersection was a short sharp sweeping curve that was ideal for Healey owners to take at excessive speeds. This was the case of two of my fraternity brothers who owned 100-4 s.

The look, the sound of those machines turned every ones head as they rounded that curve.

From that time forward I wanted to own an Austin Healey. So just to get myself exposed to British sports cars I found an MG TD that was a

rolling chassis and 10 boxes of parts. This project was more than I could handle so after a year I sold it. About that time I met my wife Karen, got married and put all thoughts of buying a Healey on the back burner.

In 1974 I started looking for my dream and found a 1961 BT7 for sale in Salt Lake. I purchased the car and was about to pick it up in the avenues and noticed that it was parked on a very steep driveway rather than parked in the sellers garage. He indicated that the gas tank had a leak on the front bottom corner. I drove it home without burning me or the car up and started a minor restoration. I joined the Austin Healey club and was given a great deal of help and advice from the members. John Morrison was especially helpful.

About the same time we had just built a home in Layton that had a walk out basement. We built to double doors on walk out section of the home. One was for a bedroom and the other to drive the Healey into the basement and do my restoration. The first item was to repair the gas tank and the second was to rebuild the transmission. I will never forget the feeling I had while rebuilding the transmission and I heard all of those needle bearings drop on the floor. The next big mistake was putting on wrong hub on the left front wheel. My marriage survived even after the wheel came off two different times while Karen was driving.



Merlin and his helper

I upholstered the car, along with a new top and tonneau cover. When purchased the car was a very ugly brown and I will not use the word that would describe the color. I had it painted the original Healey blue. To really make the car look even better we finished with a clear coat. It looked good until my son rode his trike along the side of the Healey and his exposed handle bar raking a long scratch. The clear coat peeled off just like an orange peel.



The 4 cylinder project

To satisfy those sport car needs I have purchased a Porsche 911SC, a Nissan 300ZX, and a 32 Ford pickup. Nothing matched an Austin Healey.



Merlin is no stranger to repair work

Due to finances, space, my family and many other factors we sold the car ten years later to a gentleman who raced in vintage car events. I understand the car was later wrecked.

After retirement I decided to find another Healey. I looked for a 100-4, but as we all know the price has increased since 1985 and the numbers has decreased. I found one in Wisconsin that I felt would be a great project.

Buyer's remorse. This was a rolling chassis and 25 boxes of parts. I'll never learn. I sold it a year later to a Texan who was sending it back to Europe. The only thing I got out of it was part of my money back, a cold air box, louvered hood and a complete upholstery set for a 100-4.



The current Judkins' Healey

In 2012 I did find another 1961 BT7 in northern California. It needs some major body work but it drives nice and I love that Healey feeling. At this point I believe I'll take Dave Maxwell's advice and just drive it. During the summers I awake about 6am on Sundays and drive from my home in Layton, over trappers loop and return home thru Ogden canyon. That drive gets me closer to heaven than attendance at church.

Merlin Judkins

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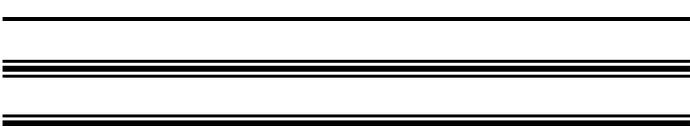
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BONNEVILLE AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB-MARCH 12, 2013 MEETING MINUTES

Ann Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.
The meeting was held at the Red Robin.

In Attendance: Ann and Doug Lewis, Dave and Sandy Maxwell, Myra Strauchen, Merlin Judkins, Bob Jahnke, Ernie Reno, Joe Morley, Don Colman, Don Hughes, Dil and Diane Strasser, and Craig and Carol Mossberg.

Treasurer's Report: The current balance is adequate for all club needs.

Membership: There are 48 paid members. Only 2 of last year's members are unpaid at this time.

Editor's Report: Meeting times and locations are now shown in the newsletter.

Activities:

March- The Price Museum of Speed tour has been moved to Tuesday, March 26th at 6:30 PM. This is a guided tour that will take approximately 2 hours. Parking is available on a first come- first serve basis in the lot on the eastside of the building. If you plan to attend, contact Dave Maxwell as attendance is limited.

April- The Miller Motorsports Park Museum tour is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th at 10:00 AM. Meet at the Home Depot Parking lot on 21st South in Salt Lake City before 9:00 AM if you want to travel as a group to Miller.

May- The trip to Ouray, Durango, Mesa Verde, Moab and Green River is scheduled for May 31st to June 3rd. If you want to go, contact Ann Lewis for hotel information.

June- British Field Day is Saturday, June 15th at Liberty Park in Salt Lake City. The Sun Valley trip has been moved to June 30th through July 3rd. Contact Dave Maxwell for details.

July- Healey Days are tentatively scheduled for July 26th through July 28th. Jim Revel will provide details at the next meeting.

Later activities are per the previously published schedule.

Other Business: The group discussed ideas for memorabilia to celebrate the club's 30th anniversary. It was proposed that we produce pullover sweatshirts showing the BAHC club logo and 1983-2013/30th Anniversary. Dave Maxwell will explore and provide options at the next meeting. Don Colman is interested in a formal appraisal for his yellow Healey. If anyone has suggestions, contact Don directly.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.
Submitted by Craig Mossberg

The southern trip

The upcoming trip for May 31-June 3 to Ouray, Durango, Cortez, Colorado; onto Moab, and Green River, Utah, is as follows:

May 31 Ouray Victorian Inn 800-846-8729
\$115 plus tax

June 1 Turquoise Inn & Suites 970-565-3778
\$119 or perhaps \$99 plus tax

June 2 River Terrace Inn 435-564-3401
\$104.35 plus tax

I've set aside a block of rooms at each location under the name of the Bonneville Austin-Healey Club. I'm still working with the Turquoise Inn on rates, and hope to have it resolved by our March meeting. Please call and reserve your room with your own card sometime before May 1.

The first day's drive (May 31) is a long day (6 ½ hours), but the other days are leisurely (3 hours). Mesa Verde National Park is about 10 minutes off the highway; some of you may not want to go there so you can go straight into Cortez to the Turquoise Inn, although it is an interesting Park.

SUN VALLEY TRIP

June 30 – July 3

Current plans for the trip are to leave Sunday morning around but, no later than 8:30 A.M. From the Salt Lake area we will travel to Logan UT and follow US-91 to Virginia ID. Then we will travel I-15 to Pocatello and have a lunch break.

We then will continue on I-15 to Blackfoot and turn onto US-26 until Arco. Turning then onto ID-20 to the Craters of the Moon National Monument. Time permitting we may take a break at the monument to take a look at the "Devils Vomit". Our next road of travel will be ID-75 through Hailey and into Ketchum.

I have reserved rooms at the Tamarack Inn in Ketchum. The rate **including** taxes for the 3 nights is \$445.00. The rooms are either King non-smoking, or two Queens also

non-smoking. The Hotel is within walking distance to downtown and all that Ketchum offers.

Monday and Tuesday we can explore the countryside in our Healeys. Returning to home on Wednesday, I plan on the straight line method, south to I-84, onto I-15 and home.

Contact Dave Maxwell for the number to confirm your reservation at the hotel.



Sun Valley Lodge in winter
We won't be there with the snow!

Having worked with British cars I have become familiar with the difference in meanings of words such as spanner (wrench), boot (trunk), bonnet (hood).

But reading the following bit in the April Readers Digest still gave me a fit of laughter.

A short story about a young woman's first trip to London.

When she checked in at her hotel, the man behind the desk ask her if she would like him to "knock her up in the morning." Flustered, she answered, I don't know!"



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