



# *The Healey Enthusiast*

Volume XXIV No. XII

December 2013



**A wonderful evening at the Annual A-H Banquet !**

## **DECEMBER EVENTS**

**Wed. Dec. 4**

**PIE Meeting**

**Sat. Dec. 7**

**Planning Breakfast**

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Minnesota  
Web Site [www.mnhealey.com](http://www.mnhealey.com)

National  
Web Site [www.healeyclub.org](http://www.healeyclub.org)

**PIE****(President's Informal Evening)**

**Date: Wednesday Dec. 4th**

**Time: 7:00 p.m. (or before)**

**Place: Fort Snelling Officers Club**

This location is on Hwy. 5 (east of I-494) on the southeast side of the Mpls./St. Paul Intl. Airport. Exit at the Post Road ramp, turn south (east) towards the river and proceed on to the road heading for the park, take the first left and wind around to the Officers Club building.

Come and enjoy refreshments and/or food with the friendly club members, catch up on news & events, and discuss cars & restorations.

**Breakfast at the Peg**

Come to this casual event (most) every Saturday morning about 8:00 a.m. for great food, reasonable prices, & lots of Intermarque car enthusiasts. It's a fun way to start off your weekend !

!

Location: **The Square Peg Diner**  
**2021 East Hennepin Ave.**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55414**

**THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST**

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation. THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST, is published 12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles which appear in THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST are the opinions of the authors and do not express the position of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club on any matter unless specifically noted. We do our best to ensure accuracy but cannot be held responsible for errors and omissions. Contributions are welcome on any subject related to Healeys, club members, or of general interest to the classic car hobby. Material from THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST may be reprinted in any other publication provided reciprocal article use permission is granted by that publication. Deadline for submissions to the editor is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the next issue. Classified ads are free for MAHC members, \$5.00 for non-members. For display rates contact newsletter advertising. The Minnesota Austin Healey Club Inc. is operating as a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation and is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America, Inc.

## The Presidential Corner

By Greg Willodson

The 2013 Holiday Party/Business Meeting has come and gone, and a changing of the guard has taken place in the MN Austin Healey Club. I'm luckier than most new Presidents; as Suzanne, our retiring President, is right here to help me keep the wheels aligned on this roadster in 2014.

Curt Carlson, a committed long-time member of this club, has graciously accepted the position of vice president for the next year. His dedication, creativity, and quick wit, are all wonderful assets that will help maintain the Minnesota Austin Healey Club's position as the best car club anywhere!

I'm not quite sure what Suzanne and I were expecting when we attended our first Healey Club event, but we certainly could not have anticipated meeting so many wonderful people - and we never suspected that there'd be so many fun activities going on all the time - or that we'd be driving a 53 year old car around as fast as we could make it go (admittedly not that fast, but we're working on that). You all are the proof that Donald Healey figured out how to build a "fountain of youth" factor into every Austin Healey!

The odometer might stop spinning for the next few months, but that doesn't mean all things Healey are set aside. We have a mountain of new parts waiting to be installed on our car this winter. Most of them will make the car stop better, steer better, use less fuel, and roast our tootsies less. We're most excited about that last one! I hope that doesn't make us sound old...

There are already several great events waiting to be placed on the 2014 calendar, which we'll do at the planning breakfast on December 7. See you there!



# The Presidents Informal Evening

By Greg Willodson

November 6, 2013      President Suzanne Willodson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

## Recap of recent events

October 5 – Adopt-a-Highway Clean up

- A group of dedicated members met near Lake City, MN for this bi-annual event coordinated by Greg Lauser. The weather was not surprisingly misty and rainy, but that is part of the tradition!
- The club picked up the tab for lunch.
- Curt Carlson's friend, Ron Cooper, was part of the crew this year. When we were headed to the restaurant for lunch, he took a brief detour; and, unbeknownst to us, stopped at Target. He bought the makings of a care package for each member that included socks, talcum powder, and towels. This was a most thoughtful gift from the "King of Details!" Curt was instructed to bring Ron to all future club events.

October 12 – Fall Color Tour

- We had an excellent turn out, including two dogs (Powell's and Willodson's)
- Mostly Healeys of course, but also assorted others - Jaguars, BMW, and a Triumph GT6.
- Bryan and Ann Johnson from Mankato came with their national award-winning Healey.

November 2 – Second Harvest Heartland volunteer event

- A group of 26 club members met in Golden Valley at the Second Harvest food bank
- We packed an impressive number of boxes of food that will be distributed to local food shelves
- Cash Donations were made in addition to volunteer time
- Great turn out and lunch afterwards at Doolittle's

## Upcoming events

November 16 – MAHC Annual Banquet & Business Meeting

- Our biggest annual event!
- Curt took RSVPs on the spot during the meeting. About 30 people made their reservations.

December 4 – PIE

December 7 – MAHC Breakfast Planning Meeting

- At Joseph's restaurant in St. Paul
- Planning for 2014 events
- Meeting to be led by our new president
- Board of Directors Meeting afterwards

December 14 – British Arrows Awards

- Formerly known as the British Television Advertising Awards
- Held at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis
- The date of Dec 14 is tentative. Once the date is decided, an email will be sent out to the club with info and RSVP instructions.

## **The Presidents Informal Evening... continued**

### **Reports & Miscellaneous Highlights**

Treasurer's Report – Jim Manion reported that finances were in good shape. Jim and Patty just returned from a trip to England. Welcome back !

Librarian's Report – Jeff Johnk brought a selection from the club's collection. He announced everyone is overdue on returning their items. Eileen Wetzel suggested that all VHS tapes checked out should be returned in DVD format.

Jeff Johnk also gave an update on Mike and Stacey Manser, who have officially left Minnesota for Austin, Texas. Jeff said they have a top notch racetrack near Mike's location that is worth visiting.

Membership Report – Jim Kriz reported that nobody joined and nobody quit.

National delegate report – Greg Lauser will give a full report at the annual business meeting on Nov 16.

We're looking for replacements for two members on the Board of Directors. Discussion of a nominating committee took place and one was formed. The Board of Directors nominating committee is now comprised of the president and vice president. They will be in contact with the board on their search.

Jeff Rossi brought along a selection of old newsletters from MAHC and other clubs for the taking. The newsletters include tech information, etc. Curt Carlson brought up that Gary Ronning is our historian and keeps a copy of all MAHC newsletters.

Kim Rixen brought cupcakes for Steve Rixen's birthday. Curt suggested that you may take a cupcake if you take one of Rossi's old newsletters.

June Moerke announced that the Healey Marque national magazine included a nice photo of Eileen and Gary Wetzel at Conclave in Quebec. Eileen's name was mentioned three times for participation in events and for placing in competitions. Congratulations!

All club officers were notified that they should prepare to give a report at the Annual Banquet to the members.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:31 PM

In attendance:

Curt Carlson, Jim Manion, Tom & June Moerke, Dick Mathews, Carl & Betty Stine, David Herreid, Jeff Johnk, Jeff Lombard, Dan Powell, Geoff & Diane Rossi, Jack Stein, Jim Kriz, Kate & Clarence Westberg, Steve & Kim Rixen, Nancy & Greg Lauser, Gary & Barb Ronning, Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Scott McQueen, and Greg & Suzanne Willodson

## Second Harvest Heartland Volunteer Event

By Cheryl Rademacher

Question: Did you eat today? Were you able to choose what you had to eat, when to eat, and how much to eat? For most of us, the answer would be yes. For many in our community who are unemployed or struggling from paycheck to paycheck, the answer would be no. According to *Second Harvest Heartland*, as often as three times a week many low-income children, adults, and seniors in Minnesota go to bed hungry. *Second Harvest Heartland* is dedicated to reducing hunger in our area by distributing 51 million pounds of food to nearly 1000 food shelves, soup kitchens, and shelters in Minnesota and Western Wisconsin. *Second Harvest* depends on volunteers; so bright and early Saturday morning, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 26 MAHC members turned up at the warehouse in Golden Valley ready to work!

After a brief orientation we entered the warehouse, rolled up our sleeves, and moved to the packaging area under the watchful and energetic direction of Rodney, our warehouse leader. Steve Rixen and Chuck Norton got to work separating large produce boxes from their covers so teams could pack each box with 15 pounds of assorted food items. Packaged cereals, granola bars, crackers, flour, and other donated items found their way into the boxes, each weighing in at 15 pounds -- not more than an ounce or two over or under. Other hardworking Healey team members stacked the boxes on pallets or cut cardboard and cleared our areas. The morning seemed to fly by, and soon we were back in the orientation area for some closing remarks from the *Second Harvest* staff.

We learned just \$25 feeds a family of 4 for a week. \$25 is enough to provide food for 92 meals, and as little as \$5 can provide 18 meals! In addition to bringing in food items to add to their food shelves on behalf of our MAHC, President Suzanne Willodson presented *Second Harvest* with a check for \$300 along with another donation of \$50! MAHC packed 4535 lbs. of food into those 15 pound boxes. That equals 303 boxes! In total, MAHC - along with team members from Affinity Plus, Urban Immersion, Pi Beta Phi, and a few individual volunteers -packed 12,441 lbs. of food for *Second Harvest Heartland*!

Hardworking MAHC members included Greg and Suzanne Willodson, Curt Carlson, Teresa Boyer and Henry Boyer, Chuck and Jean Norton, Bryan and Ford Johnson, Rich and Liz Stadther, Rod Richert, Greg and Nancy Lauser, Steve and Kim Rixen, Gary and Eileen Wetzell, Geoff and Diane Rossi, Steve Chirpich, Gary and Barb Ronning, Gene Berghoff, and Dave and Cheryl Rademacher. Since no MAHC event is complete without continued conversations and food, those who were able motored over to Doolittle's in Golden Valley. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered at this event by giving back to our community!

Second Harvest Heartland Event



Second Harvest Heartland Event





## **AHCA National Delegates Meeting in Indianapolis**

**National Dues are the Same for 2014.**

**AHCA Will Continue Billing for Local-Member Insurance Coverage.**

**By Greg Lauser, MAHC National Delegate**

Highlights of the Nov. 8-10, 2013 meeting:

No national dues increase.

Fred Dabney of the Carolinas AHC was elected President; other officers were re-elected. AHCA membership has hovered around 3,100 for the past 3 years.

AHCA will continue billing regional chapters that allow local member \$5 per local member to cover their fair share of AHCA's costs for general liability and officers & directors insurance, which also protects regional chapters and their members. That will require that by January 15 of each year chapter membership directors provide AHCA's VP for Club Support with a list of names and addresses of local-only members and the total number of local-only members. Each affiliate club will be billed \$5 per local member, to level the playing field in sharing insurance and bonding costs that already protect all national and local club members' liability when sponsoring events where liability coverage is required, i.e., uphill slaloms, airport runs, gymkhanas, tours, etc. Chapter members who are AHCA members already pay their share in national dues. AHCA left to the discretion of local chapters whether that cost is recovered from local members in local-dues increases or absorbed by local clubs. Based on 42 local-member renewals in 2013, MAHC paid \$210. The MAHC Board of Directors gave local-only members a year grace period by authorizing payment of the 2013 assessment from MAHC funds. The board will vote on a local-only membership dues increase of \$5 to a total of \$25 at its meeting Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013.

In 2011 the deadline for AHCA dues renewal was moved to January 15. To assure that your information appears in the 2014 AHCA Membership Directory Jim Kriz needs to receive renewals by January 1, 2014 to get a complete list of renewed members to the national director in time.

The Low Country Austin-Healey Club of Hilton Head, South Carolina, is the newest local chapter whose affiliation with AHCA was approved by delegates. Discussions with Austin-Healey Club USA officers about merging with AHCA are at a standstill. In summer 2012 AHCA provided its member and financial records to AHC USA and was assured there would be an exchange of information. AHC USA has not shared membership and financial records necessary to move forward with merger talks.

Conclave Charlevoix contributed \$6,800 to AHCA. Conclave 2014 is at The Homestead resort in western Virginia. Conclave 2015 will be jointly hosted by AHCA's New England club and the Austin-Healey Sports & Touring Club of New England. It will be called "Enclave 2015 – Healeys on Hallowed Ground" at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Ohio Valley AHC will host Conclave 2016 in Covington, Kentucky – just across the river from Cincinnati, Ohio. Delegate David Nock reported that Golden Gate AHC will prepare a formal proposal for hosting Conclave 2017 at Lake Tahoe in September 2017 if AHCA wants him to pursue it. He already has secured discounted hotel rates at the former Caesar's Palace hotel in South Lake Tahoe if AHCA approves that plan.

## **MAHC 2013 Annual Banquet and Business Meeting**

The annual club banquet and business meeting was held at the Officer's Club on Saturday, November 16.

This year, sixty-seven members RSVP'd to Barb and Gary Ronning, the organizers of our biggest annual event. All sixty-seven were present and accounted for! As tradition dictates, social hour began promptly at 6:00 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m. President Suzanne Willodson welcomed the group and went over the agenda for the evening. Just a few minutes later, it was announced that dinner was ready. The Officer's Club staff once again took care of our members. The dinner buffet was presented beautifully with comfort food that pleased everyone. By request from more than a few people, dinner was followed by peach cobbler and coffee.

After dinner, the business portion of the evening was kicked off. We started with the election of our new club President, Greg Willodson. Next came the election of the Vice President, which might have caught some members by surprise when it was announced that Curt Carlson would serve in this position. Greg and Curt will make a great team in 2014!

We are more than fortunate to have convinced Jim Manion to continue on as Treasurer and Jim Kriz to stay on as Membership Director. And while not a position of power officially recognized by the bylaws of our club, Jeff Johnk was persuaded to hold the position of Librarian for another year.

Next up for election came the position of National Delegate to the AHCA. Greg Lauser has held this position for years, travelling to meetings across the country and representing us at the national level. Greg searched for a replacement for some time until a volunteer stepped forward recently. Eileen Wetzel was nominated and elected as the National Delegate to everyone's enthusiastic approval.

There were two Board of Director positions open this year. We are grateful to Spook Johns and Mike Martin for providing leadership and oversight to the club over the past two years. To carry on their roles, the membership elected Jeff Lombard and Dan Powell as our newest board members. All other volunteers on the MAHC Staff graciously agreed to serve another year -and for that we are thankful.

Door Prizes were awarded throughout the night and the Silent Auction had fantastic items up for bid. Some of the stand out items were June Moerke's preserves, the Rixen's "Greek Dinner for Two" (to be cooked by Kim Rixen), and jars of honey from Betty Stine's first harvest. These were just some of the items that generated lots of bidding activity throughout the evening. At the end of the night, the live auction was called out by our own resident auctioneer, Tom Politiski. Framed art, a sweatshirt donated by a gentleman's establishment, an incredible granite tile of the MAHC logo made by Kent Brown, and a highly coveted turned Wooden Bowl made by Dale Martin were on the block - and brought in very respectable bids. Thank you everyone for donating your time, gifts, and creative efforts to the club auction!

Tom P. addressed the group with thoughtful words about the established members welcoming and mentoring the new members into the club and encouraging them to take on leadership roles. From what we (the Willodsons) have learned in the past couple of years, the camaraderie in our club is rare. I think others would find it fascinating how effortlessly we operate our club. Let's not change a thing.

**Thanks to everyone who attended the Annual Banquet.**

**Cheers to both the outgoing and incoming officers!**

**2014 is sure to be another amazing year.**

Austin Healey Annual Banquet



Conversation  
Nametags  
Shopping

**The Minnesota Austin Healey Club members who attended this year's Annual Banquet were:**

Tom Hazen & Jane Schuler, Jim & Rose Klein, Fred Ambli & Sandie Swenson, Jim Kriz & Linda Fraser, Tom Politiski, Jim & Patty Manion, Kent & Jane Brown, Wayne & Maria Buchholz, Curt Carlson & Teresa Boyer, Jeff & Carol Johnk, Spook & Britt Johns, Greg & Nancy Lauser, Jeff & Scott Lumbard, Dale & Barb Martin, Dick Mathews, Herb & Marsha Miller, Tom & June Moerke, Chuck & Jean Norton, Steve & Kim Rixen, Geoff & Diane Rossi, Carl & Betty Stine, Clarence & Kate Westberg, Greg & Suzanne Willodson, Gary & Eileen Wetzel, Jan Huston & Wayne Soderbeck, Dave & Cheryl Rademacher, Dan Gallagher & Mary Grilli, Rich & Liz Stadther, Jack Stein & Caren LaBelle, Pat and Marsha Holt, Rod Richert, Dan & Lauri Powell, Jeff & Karen Sartell, Dave Herreid & Daphne Walmer, Gary & Barb Ronning.

**Thank you all for coming !**



Austin Healey Annual Banquet



*Happy Faces*  
*Suzanne's Farewell*  
*Scrumptious Buffet*



*A picture of a guy*  
*taking a picture of a*  
*guy taking a picture !*



# Membership / Renewal Form

Minnesota A-H Club Dues                     New    Renewal ..... \$20.00  
Austin-Healey Club of America Dues    New    Renewal ..... \$50.00  
BOTH CLUBS ..... \$70.00

Minnesota A-H Club (Local only) Dues    New    Renewal ..... \$25.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Receive Newsletter via email? Yes No

### HEALEY INFORMATION:

Year \_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Original Owner (Y/N)\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Original Owner (Y/N)\_\_\_\_

Condition:    Show Quality    Nice & Roadworthy  
                   Could be running with help    Restoration Project

**Make checks payable to: MN Austin Healey Club    ( or MAHC )**

Checks covering AHCA membership renewals must reach Jim Kriz no later than **January 1, 2014**, to assure that your information appears in the 2014 AHCA Membership Directory.

**Send form and checks to:**

**Jim Kriz  
2000 Kenwood Pkwy.  
Minneapolis, MN 55405**

# MAHC 2013 Event Planning Meeting

*Come for breakfast - Stay to plan!*

Date: Saturday December 7, 2013

Times: Meeting begins at 9:00 am

Restaurant opens at 6:00 am

Coffee and Breakfast can be ordered during the meeting.



Place: Joseph's Grill  
 140 South Wabasha  
 St. Paul, MN  
 651-222-2435

**MAHC Statistics** *(from the Archives of Kriz)*

**2013 membership: 112**

**National (AHCA) members: 71**

**Local chapter (MAHC) members: 41**

<b>BJ8</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>AN9</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>BJ7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>AN8</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>BT7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>AN7</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>BN7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>AN6</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>BN6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>AN5</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>BN4</b>	<b>4</b>		
<b>BN2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>JenHly</b>	<b>2</b>

The phone kids have today when they are six.



The phone my kids had when they were six.



The phone I had when I was six.



# Events Schedule

- Dec. 4\*\***                    **PIE Meeting** – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 p.m. See page 2.
- Dec. 7 \*\***                    **Planning Breakfast** – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2014 will be on the agenda for this meeting hosted by Greg Willodson at Joseph's Restaurant in St. Paul. A Board of Directors meeting will follow.
- \*\* - Denotes an official MAHC club activity**

## Events 2014

- June 12-15**                **Rendezvous 2014**  
The 24<sup>th</sup> Rendezvous will be held in Thunder Bay, Ontario at the Nor'Wester Hotel.
- June 15-20**                **AHCA Conclave 2014**  
The Carolinas Austin Healey Club will be hosting this event in Hot Springs, Virginia.

### Board of Directors Meeting

**Date:** Saturday December 7th

**Time:** 11:00 am (approximately)

**Place:** Joseph's Grill  
140 So. Wabasha – St. Paul, MN

**Purposes:**

- To Elect a Board Chairman**
- To approve the Schedule of Events for 2014.**
- To discuss any other old/new business.**



**People submitting photos  
for the December issue:**

**Ford Johnson  
Barb Ronning  
Allen Wehr**

**Thank you !**



Steve Rixen is...



*Strictly British*, LLC



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Buffalo, MN 55313

## First Class Postage



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## MARKETPLACE

Marketplace policy: All ads are free to current members. For non-members, the charge is \$5.00 per month. Ads will be run for three months after which time the advertiser needs to submit new ad copy. Please inform the editor if your item or items have been sold during the three month period so the ad can be removed.

**FOR SALE** – 28 foot Trailer. Good for two Sprites. Call Rich Stadther at 651-698-1981. (11/13)

**FOR SALE** – Pos. Ground Petronix for 6 Cylinder Healey. \$50.00 Call Greg Willodson-612-805-0814 (11/13)

**FOR SALE** – Temp/Oil gauge for AH Sprite – make offer. Bumperettes and Windscreen Frame for a square body Sprite – free to a good home. Call Scott McQueen at 612-802-4599. (11/13)

**FOR SALE** – 1960 Morris minor Coupe (w/948 motor)

1958 MGA Roadster                                      Make offers to Steve Rixen at 612-877-1938 (11/13)

**WANTED** - Advice—on wire wheels. Who would you buy wire wheels for a BJ7 from? Hendrix, Dayton, or other? Email Barry Wahlberg at [geo4bar@gctel.com](mailto:geo4bar@gctel.com) Thanks ! (12/13)

**FOR SALE** - Healey engine 29K/RU/H2232. Has a cracked block, but still many good parts. Call or text Tom Wolters at 651-307-3298 . \$1,000. (12/13)