



# WingNotes

## *Deck the halls with boughs of Healey*


**KEN'S CHATTER...**First off this month, I would like to thank my wife Barb for serving as Regional Director for 2008, and I also want to thank Dan Anderson who served for several years as our Vice Regional Director for Programs. It is great to have John Schroeder volunteer to take the programs job for 2009, and we will talk about John's plans a little later. It will certainly make my job easier for 2009 having so many returning officers from last year with Bill Cantrall organizing our driving events, Bill Kowalski keeping the books in order, Jim Gruber publishing WingNotes each month and Bob Brown organizing the membership records as well as being our National Delegate AND our Conclave 2010 Chairman.

2009 looks to be a fun, exciting and busy year for our club. 2008 was the first year, in many years, that our membership ranks have grown. At last count, we have 124 members and our goal is to continue to make your membership in the club a valuable resource for maintaining, improving and enjoying your Austin-Healey.

We plan to continue our Saturday morning tech sessions each month, and we also plan to make our monthly meetings more than just a social gathering. John Schroeder, with help from us, plans to organize a technical, informative or just plain fun presentation at each meeting that we hold this year at Russell's. John is truly an expert when it comes to maintaining Austin-Healeys. He has volunteered to start us off in January with a presentation on carburetor tuning and battery maintenance. John does not plan to do all of the presentations at our meetings in 2009, and while he has several ideas for good topics, we need your input to fill out the schedule. (or even volunteer to be a presenter)

Interesting presentations, good friends and cool cars will not be the only reasons to come out to club meetings in 2009. Oh yes, there is much more. We will continue our series of 20 question quizzes where the winner(s) each month will win valuable prizes. When the weather warms in the spring, we will move the meeting outdoors at Russell's to be with the cars after a bite to eat. With Conclave 2010 now just around the corner, we will be keeping you informed and getting you involved if you so choose at each meeting. Finally, if that wasn't enough, we plan to bribe you to come by having attendance raffles at each meeting. Every person that attends the meeting will be given a raffle ticket, and you can double your chance of winning by purchasing one and only one more ticket for \$1.00. So if you haven't attended a meeting at all or lately come on out and give it a try.

**We will NOT have a December business meeting a Russell's.** As has been our tradition, we will instead hold our annual Holiday Party on Sunday December 14th. See the party announcement details elsewhere in this issue.



The Monthly meeting is held on the second Friday of the month at Russell's BBQ, 2885 Algonquin Road (Rt. 62), Rolling Meadows, IL. (1 mile East of Rt. 53), Telephone 847-259-5710. Social meeting starts at 7:30 pm and the business meeting starts at 8 pm. Ample lighted parking at rear of building.

The newsletter *WingNotes* is published one week before the monthly meeting date.

**KEN'S CHATTER...***continued from page 1*

The agenda for the January meeting at Russell's in Rolling Meadows is shaping up as follows:

1. Introduction icebreaker- Why did you acquire an Austin-Healey?
2. 20 Question Quiz- Austin-Healey and MG cross-pollination.
3. Officers' reports.
4. Event reports (past and future)
5. Discussion of the 2009 calendar of events.
6. Conclave 2010 update.
7. New business from the membership.
8. Tech presentation- Carburetor tuning & battery maintenance by John Schroeder.
9. 20 questions quiz answers, results & prizes.
10. Luck of the draw attendance raffle drawing.

If you have any ideas for meetings, including in January, or for events in 2009 please drop me a note at [oilonfloor@aol.com](mailto:oilonfloor@aol.com) or give me a call at 847-394-9215. *Ken Olendzki*

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**NOVEMBER MEETING**

The November meeting of the Austin-Healey Club, Midwest Region was held as usual at Russell's BBQ on Algonquin Road in Rolling Meadows, Illinois. The fellowship started at 7:30 followed by the regular business meeting at 8:00 pm.

As an ice breaker, Ken Olendzki prepared one of his famous 20 question challenge quizzes. Ken distributed the quizzes to all the club members as they arrived. Naturally, Ken took a lot of heat for some of the questions and answers but everyone appreciated the time and effort that went into the preparation of the quiz.

A sheet was passed around for members to sign up for the 2008 Holiday Party which is graciously hosted by Barb, Ken and Dorothy Olendzki on Sunday December 14th, 2008. Cocktails at 5, Dinner at 6 and the gift exchange at 7:30 pm. From the looks of the sign-up sheet they expect a great turn out.

**OFFICERS REPORT**

Membership- Bob Brown reports that we have 124 members. (see membership renewal notice elsewhere in this issue)

Finance- Bill Kowalski reports that the club is in the black with \$4400 in the bank.

Driving- Bill Cantrall reports that there are no driving events planned for the near future due to winter.

Old Business- The holiday party is next on the schedule, on Sunday 12/14/2008. There will be no regular December meeting due to the holidays and the holiday party.

Conclave Status Report- Bob Brown reports that the logo design will be selected from ideas submitted by members. In addition, Bob emphasized that he need chairpersons for numerous committee

Regalia- Ideas for regalia should be given to Ken Olendzki.

New Business- Neil Anderson and Bill Cantrall shared their trip to England for the Sprite 50th Anniversary party. Neil and Bill also collaborated on a pictorial article. The first installment appears in the October issue of *Healey Marque* magazine. The photos by Neil and Bill turned out great. Neil said that the concours d'elegance event at Goodwood House was great.

National Delegates Meeting- Bob Brown reports that the Make-A-Wish Foundation was the recipient of \$29K from the National club. (see the complete delegates report elsewhere in this issue.) *Pat McDonald*

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## FALL AHCA DELEGATES MEETING

Hosted by the Gateway Club, the AHCA held its' fall delegates meeting on November 8th and 9th, in St Louis. 30 of the 48 clubs were represented in addition to the national officers present. To begin the meeting each local club presented a short summary of club activities, membership, and fund raising opportunities. The variety of club events is amazing, including tours, parties, picnics, etc.

Conclave reports were presented for 2008, 2009, and 2010. 2008 produced a significant profit that was split with AHCA and a check was presented. 2009 and 2010 are on course to be successful events. The Canadian exchange rate will favor the Americans attending Conclave 2009 in Kingston. The delegates continue to be enthusiastic about Conclave 2010 at Eagle Ridge. I was asked if we had registration forms available, so some could register early. Of course, that is not possible due to AHCA rules.

The Caravan for Kids fund raising effort for the Make-A-Wish raised over \$29,000. Embarrassingly I must report that our Midwest Club chose not to participate at the club level. A few members did make individual contributions.

Other items of interest are: National dues will remain at the 1998 level of \$40. Club insurance coverage costs are being reduced and Healey Marque will be produced with all 40 pages in color at no additional expense. The future 50 organizers are preparing a new campaign to target 20 to 40 year-olds as future members of AHCA. Local clubs will be provided materials for this effort. Future 50 will be conducting a club "Challenge" competition along with this campaign. (Our Midwest Region will need to identify a local representative for this project.)

Significant time was spent working on classifying and cleaning up the AHCA bylaws. Changes proposed last year were approved after a second reading. Additional changes were proposed, followed by discussion and a first vote. These additional changes will receive a final vote next year.

Breakout sessions were held to discuss: driving awards, Future 50 challenge, reimbursement policy for delegate expenses and fees for required Conclave events. The Conclave fees issue is due primarily to the 2009 event requiring \$40 to participate in the gymkhana. Previous Conclaves have had a charge for this event, but never at this level. The delegates voted that future Conclaves must include all "required events" be included in the registration fee. This will not impact our 2010 event as we are not incurring any large expense for our gymkhana.

The AHCA web master reported that significant new capabilities will be added to the AHCA web site due to a change in web hosting site. I will be attempting to use the AHCA site to store our WingNotes.

The nominating committee proposed 5 honorary memberships for 2009, to include our own Bill Naretta who is retiring as a National VP. The 5 memberships were approved by the delegates. Don Klein will replace Bill Naretta and Jo Switzer will replace Edie Lowery as National Secretary.

Finally, the delegates accepted an invitation to hold the 2009 meeting in Charlotte, NC. *Bob Brown.*

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## 2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

An early reminder, AHCA will be sending membership renewals in early December. As in the past renewals can be made either by mail or electronically. To pay by mail, send a check for \$50 to the address on the renewal form (along with the renewal form). Electronically use the AHCA website <http://www.healeyclub.org> Click on renew and follow the directions. *Bob Brown.*

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## CONCLAVE 2010

We are 19 months away from hosting Conclave 2010 at Eagle Ridge. It is time to establish working committees necessary for a successful event. We have established a committee structure, filing the various sub-committees with chairpersons will be the next critical step. Volunteers for some sub-committees have already stepped forward. Sub-committee positions already filled are identified as (I) in the following list;

**Chairman-** Bob Brown

- . Post Event Tour (I)
- . Sponsors

**Treasurer-** Bill Kowalski

- . Publicity

**Registration-** Price Lindsay

- . Scoring (I)

**Driving Events-** Bill Cantrall

- . Gymkhana
- . Funkhana
- . TSD Rally
- . Gimmick Rally
- . Tours

**Facilities-** Neil Anderson

- . Car Wash
- . Trailer Parking
- . Tech Sessions
- . Concours (I)
- . Hospitality
- . Meals

**Purchasing-** Ken Olendzki

- . Regalia
- . Auction/Raffle

**Non-Driving Events-** Gale Fabish

- . RC Car Races (I)
- . Pinewood Derby (I)
- . Popularity Show
- . Arts & Craft

Please look carefully at the above list and if there is a sub-committee that you would be comfortable leading PLEASE contact the listed chairman or Bob Brown 630-393-1413. or [conclave2010@aol.com](mailto:conclave2010@aol.com)

This is a critical time in our Conclave planning as it is our first opportunity to seek wider club activity. Your support is necessary for the success of Conclave 2010. *Bob Brown*

## CHATTER

Well hello "Chatter", so nice to see you back where you belong. Regional Director for 2009, Ken Olendzki has decided reuse the familiar name "Chatter" for the title of his monthly message in the WingNotes. Historically "Chatter" was the name of the old monthly magazine of the AHCA before it was renamed "Healey Marque". It seem like the more things change the more they stay the same. Welcome back "Chatter."

## NOVEMBER 20 QUESTIONS QUIZ

At the November meeting, we held another 20 questions quiz about things Healey and about a few cross-pollinations between Austin-Healey and Triumph vehicles. Out of a possible point total of 19, our winner, scoring 11 points was John Schroeder. Tied for second place with a score of 10 were, Bill Cantrall, Neil Anderson and Bob Brown. Team Fabish and Jeff Kelly scored a respectable 9 points. Because our quizmaster forgot the prize and left it at home, John won the most valuable prize one can win at an Austin-Healey meeting, the admiration of his fellow Healeysts. OK, John will get his tangible prize at the holiday party.

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By the way, did you know that the Triumph Spitfire was designed to compete with the Austin-Healey Sprite? Did you know that, Donald Healey held the title of Experimental Manager and General Manager of the Triumph Motor Company? Donald's first Monte Carlo Rallye was in a Triumph Super Seven Saloon, but his most famous rallye was when his Triumph Dolomite was hit by a train in the 1934 Monte Carlo. Donald designed the Triumph Dolomites in the '30's based on an Alfa Romeo, of all things. Only three Dolomites were made. They were known as DMH 1,2 & 3. The front braking system of the Jensen-Healey came directly from the Triumph TR-6 and the Bugeye shared tail-light lenses with the TR-2 and TR-3. (and at least a half dozen other British marques).

We will have another quiz at the January meeting. If you want to study up before the meeting, this quiz will address some common history between Austin-Healey & MG vehicles. We will have valuable prizes for the winners. *Ken Olendzki*

## ROAD & TRACK MAGAZINE

Check out the January 2009 issue of Road & Track magazine. On page 28, there is a full page color picture of an old-english white 1958 Austin-Healey Sprite. The beautiful unmolested, unrestored, street-legal race car was made available to Peter Egan, who writes a monthly column for the magazine, to drive for the weekend at the Elkhart Lake Vintage Car Festival. (pewww. what a sentence) The Austin-Healey Sprite was the featured car for the vintage race meeting. It turns out that the owner of this rare and wonderful example of the marque is owned by none other than our old friend Bill Thompson, of Team Thicko fame and the Midwest Region. It's a small world! I suspect that Mr. Egan would have material enough for a column or two if he questioned Bill about the escapades of the Team Thicko bunch.

## 2008 HOLIDAY PARTY

Sunday December 14, 2008,  
Gift Exchange 7:30 pm.

Hosted by Barb, Ken and Dorothy  
Arlington Heights, IL. 60004. For  
Please RSVP to 847-394-9215 or

Appetizers, dinner and beverages  
will be an old fashioned cookie  
feel obligated) bring your favorite

Costco will fill-in any shortfalls. No promises that any cookies will be left over to take home with our group, but if you bring some, hopefully you will get some to take home. to participate in the Australian Pursuit gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift for each participant valued at around \$15 to \$20. Rules will be explained (or made up) at the party.



Cocktails 5:00 pm, Dinner 6:00 pm,

Olendzki. 1213 E. Brookwood Dr.,  
directions use Mapquest or email Barb.  
[oilonfloor@aol.com](mailto:oilonfloor@aol.com)

will be provided by the club. Dessert  
exchange. If you want to help (don't  
homemade or bakery-made cookies.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**December 6** Saturday Tech Session, Brown's Garage, 28W577 Forestview Dr S, Warrenville, IL  
8am til noon 630 393 1413

**December 14** Holiday Party, 6pm, Olendzki home, 1213 Brookwood Dr, Arlington Hgts, 847-394-9215



**Regional Director**

Ken Olendzki, 847-394-9215, email: [oilonfloor@aol.com](mailto:oilonfloor@aol.com)

**Vice Regional Director-Membership**

Bob Brown, 630-393-1413 email: [blkbt7@aol.com](mailto:blkbt7@aol.com)

**Vice Regional Director-Driving Events**

Bill Cantrall, 630-338-7800 email: [wrcresearch.com](mailto:wrcresearch.com)

**Vice Regional Director-Programs**

John Schroeder, 773-287-7031

**Treasurer/BCU Representative**

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**Web Master**

Bob Brown

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Midwest AHC

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