



WingNotes

The Saturday Tech Session Goes To Fenton



The elves in Santa's workshop...Dwain, Bob, Price, Jeff, Frank, Roger, and Neil in second row.

On Saturday morning, December 5th, Fenton, Illinois awoke to 6 inches of snow on the ground. The first of the winter. About 9:30 in the morning who should show up at my shop but 8 elves ready to attack the installation of the front and rear suspension on my 1960 Bugeye Sprite restoration. The place looked like Santa's workshop with elves all over and under the car, front and rear; wrenches and parts flying everywhere. By about 2:30 everything was finished and after pizza and refreshments they were gone as quickly as they appeared. A special thanks to Neil Anderson, Bob Brown, Jim Gruber, Frank Golniewicz, Jeff Kelly, Price Lindsay, Dwain Plymale and John Schroeder. *(see photo above)*

I am always amazed by the friendship and willingness of fellow Healey members to help each other. In the last newsletter Neil Anderson asked about our goals for the new year. My goal for the new year is to complete my restoration by this spring. Neil also mentioned there is always help from fellow Healey Club members and after Saturday I agree with that.

by Roger Rhoads

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 6:15 pm and the business meeting starts at 7:15 pm. Ample lighted parking at rear of building.

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





The Monthly Tech Session Goes to Fenton continued... *photos by Roger's grandson Randy Shaller*



Price, Bob, Dwain, Neil... "Where does this go?"



John and Frank... "You Lost What?"

On the first Saturday of the month, the regularly scheduled tech session did a "road trip" to Roger Rhoads' warm garage in Fenton, IL. We went out there to help him with assembly of the front and rear suspensions on his Bugeye. Even though it had snowed overnight and with roads somewhat covered with the slick white stuff, the Mobile Healey Tech Team showed up at Roger's door to get some work done. I rode with Dwain Plymale. Jeff Kelly, John Schroeder, Price, and Frank Golniewicz rode with Bob Brown. Jim Gruber arrived in his own vehicle. Roger had just about everything ready for us, but was only expecting for us to get the assembled rear axle, $\frac{1}{4}$ elliptic springs, and radius arms installed. There were too many guys to work in the back of the Sprite, so about half started working on the front A-arms, spindle uprights, shocks, and spring assemblies. We got all that installed on both sides. It is amazing how much work can get finished in a relatively short time period with that many people on the job. Only one trip into Morrison was necessary for some hardware bits. The morning's sweet treats, coffee, and pizza lunch helped keep the energy level up to productive working standards. It was a very enjoyable morning and early afternoon, spent with good friends helping a fellow club member start to get another Healey back on the road. We look forward to updates from Roger on the rebuilding progress on his Bugeye *by Neil Anderson.*

MONTHLY MEETING AT RUSSELL'S BBQ, FRIDAY JANUARY 14TH

We have a club meeting this week at Russell's and have regular meetings early next month with the annual Winter Dinner and MG Swap Meet and Autojumble scheduled for the end of February. There will be more about all of that when details are finalized and further reported in next month's "Road Trips".



CALENDARS FOR 2011

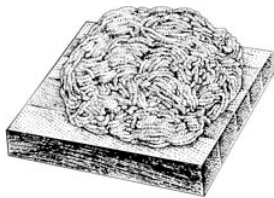


The Austin-Healey Club calendar for 2011 is out and a splendid looking effort it is. The photography and color printing are first class.

Of special note to Midwest region members is the 1967 Healey 3000 Mk III, series BJ 8 featured for the month of August. It is owned by Melissa Brown, and was received as a homecoming gift from her parents Pat and Bob. Melissa picked up the car after returning from her second deployment to Iraq with the US Army.

Another calendar currently available is the 2011 Spridget calendar. They are produced to support the Sprite-Midget Club USA. The profits from the sale of the calendars will be used to promote

“ Spridget 50”, an event to be held July 18-22nd at Road America, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. The cars are presented in a far different format than the AHCA calendar. Spridgets being Spridgets there are more pictures of project cars, “ran when parked” and barn finds than trailer queens. The November page features photos of Spridgets at the 2010 Conclave in Galena, Illinois. The calendars are available in the CafePress Store. <http://www.cafepress.com/Spridget> complete with previews.



A HANDY TIP FOR THE HOME MECHANIC

How do you clean your hands of grease and grime after a session of working on the Healey? it's simple make a meat loaf! I'll bet Martha Stewart or Julia Child never gave you advice like that!

THE CHICAGOLAND MG CLUB British Car Swap Meet & Autojumble. This is an annual event that keeps on getting bigger and bigger. The date is Sunday February 27, 2011 at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, Illinois. The times listed are 8 am to 3 pm, but a word to the wise... get there early because the good stuff goes fast.

GOOFY PICTURE OF THE MONTH



It looks like a big Healey that has been specially modified for travel in the bicycle lanes. *thanks for the photo Ken.*



HOLIDAY PARTY 2010

The end of the year “holiday party” at the Plymale’s house on the west side of Rockford was planned for another wintery day. We seem to have a habit of planning some events on days when the weather is most challenging, not on purpose for sure. On that Sunday, northern Illinois looked like Siberia and was just about as cold. We had a “white-out” around DeKalb, where I live, with winds around 30 MPH. I called Jenny for some updates, but the food



Not intimidated by the weather

had been ordered and she hoped some people would show up and help Dwain and her eat it all. Well, the weather wasn’t quite so bad on the Northwest Passage and a large contingent arrived on time. Those coming out I-88 wondered if there was going to be a passable road beyond the 100 yards that could be seen out the windscreen. Price and Carol were going to turn around, but finally found clear weather and carried on. I was watching the storm from warm surroundings and decided I wasn’t going to venture out even though I do have a 4-wheel

drive truck. Late in the afternoon it started to clear and I changed my mind to go out brave the weather. I arrived about two hours late, just in time to eat. Healey friends were glad I made it and I joined the wonderful party already in progress. The “Cornish gift exchange” was great fun as always, but next year we are just all going to bring Bailey’s Irish Cream and exchange those, as that was the preferred gift to give. After all the very good food, yummy desserts, and good time with friends, we ventured back out into the cold, now clear, night to go home. Thanks very much to Dwain and Jenny for hosting us all in their country home. The real wood fire in the fireplace was a warm touch, literally. They must like us all showing up as they hosted the summer picnic too. It was a very good start to the holiday season. And, thanks to everyone who ventured out on a cold winter day to make the party a success.

by Neil Anderson.



These smiling people ended up with the Baileys!

NEIL’S “ROAD TRIPS”

Happy New Year to everyone. I guess we can still use that greeting for the first few weeks of 2011. I hope everyone had a good holiday season, however you celebrated, and time spent with family and friends was joyful. Our lives are

busy enough, but with the added extra things that the holidays bring, it is sometimes no wonder that we are grateful for the fresh start of a new year.

As I start another term as Regional Director I must thank Ken Olendzki and his team of officers for their superb leadership during

the past couple of years. It was an exciting and busy time planning and hosting Conclave and the club became stronger as the time for Conclave approached. It was good to see the enthusiasm the members displayed during this period, which was quite evident by the quality event we put on.



Neil's "Road Trips" continued...

Many of the past officer corps have returned to help me guide the club. It is and will be a group effort, but additional help will always be graciously accepted from everyone who wishes to do so. Price Lindsay has joined this group of officers as the new Vice Regional Director for Membership Registration. We hopefully didn't burn him out with the demanding registration duties from

Conclave. Price took over that position from Bob Brown who will still handle the duties of our delegate to the national club.

Bob Benisek, Bill Cantrall, Bill Kowalski, Jim Gruber, and Pat McDonald continue as: Programs Director, Driving Events Director, Treasurer, "Wing-Notes" Editor/Publisher, and Club Secretary, respectively. It is these long time club members who care enough about the club to accept these

highly paid positions to help make our club an enjoyable diversion in our busy lives.

With good wishes for a great year, it promises to be another exciting year for Healey club events. You just have to get on the road and come out to enjoy the fun. Stay warm. Be careful out there!

Neil Anderson, Regional Director



BOOK REVIEW

"Life is a Highway" subtitled "A Century of Great Automotive Writing" is a good addition to your auto library. It features writing by contemporary authors such as Ken Purdy, Brock Yates, Peter Egan and J. Edgar Hoover. Yes, that J. Edgar Hoover; and naturally his subject is "Auto Theft" written for Motor Trend magazine in 1952. There is even some "Literature". The authors included are Stephen King, Hunter S. Thompson and Jack Kerouac. Crack open this book anywhere and just read because every chapter is a one author, one subject work.

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