

The FLASH

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AUSTIN HEALEY SPORTS & TOURING CLUB



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Cover Photos: Conclave 2013 - Del Border & John Chatham after Del broke the engine in the 1/8 mile acceleration run where he ran 94.9mph
Smaller Photos: LI group at Oak Beach; photo by Steve T. (see shadow). From North Jersey Region

What's in the Flash

by Steve Jekogian

What's in the Flash: ENCOUNTER, ENCOUNTER! You either received this the day Encounter starts or the day you get back from Encounter.

I hope you registered and are going to Hershey Park to drive the bumper cars! What a fun thing to do –bump into your friends or the guy who had a faster time than you in the gymkhana.

In a previous Flash I asked the following question, --how long have you owned your current Healey?

I keep receiving e-mails on this and a NEW LONG TIME OWNER HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED. Del Boarder tops in at 50 years owning the same car. Del, "I purchased my 1962 3000 Mark II new in July 1963. It was a year old leftover, but still titled as a 1963. Exactly 50 years of ownership."

OK what was the mystery car? Baird Foster was fastest reply, followed by Bob Pense, but I have to give the award to Earl Grandel—why, see below.

"It's a '48 or '49 Triumph 2000 Roadster. I'm positive, because I'm attaching a picture of my other car. My '59 3000 keeps it company in the garage, which always smells very vividly of Old English Car." - Earl Grandel. Thanks Earl!

"I purchased my 1962 3000 Mark II new in July 1963. It was a year old leftover, but still titled as a 1963. Exactly 50 years of ownership."

- Del Border



So what is the scoop on the Triumph 2000 ? George Crombie sent the original photo in with this note It is a 1949 Triumph 2000 Roadster. It is parked out in back of a local auto repair shop. The owner says it was found "in the woods" (so I guess it doesn't qualify as a "barn find"?) He said that the motor turned over, but didn't start. (I'm thinking maybe original). His plans are to "drop a small-block Chevy in it; why? Are you interested in buying it?" Maybe somebody else is? George Crombie george_crombie@yahoo.com>

Long Island

by Paul Parfrey

The Long Island Region's annual Beach Run/Sunset Tour was held on July 18. Originally scheduled for the previous week, it was postponed due to the threat of inclement weather. Truly jumping from the frying pan into the fire, the 18th was in the middle of a heat wave with daytime temperatures in the high 90's. Some Healey owners were stoics and drove their Healeys come hell or high temperatures and other were resourceful. I was one of the latter, driving my new Fiesta with the window down and air conditioning on full blast. Ira Udasin was in the same category in a Corvette, new to him, in place of his 100. Mary Ann Sekelsky and Tedd Krummeck, Bob and Barbara Maichin, Chris Aries, Tony and Kathy DiFrancesca, rugged individuals all, came out in Healeys, with Frank Filangeri in his E Type. Steve Tjepkema had the good sense to ride with Ira.

In spite of the heat, a good time was had by all. The sunset was spectacular and numerous deer were sighted on Fire Island. The air was even a little cooler there.

The event starts in two locations: Bellmore to the west and Oak Beach to the east. The Bellmore group joins the eastern contingent at Oak Beach and, after a half hour or 45 minutes of conversation, all move off for Fire Island. Once on the island, the caravan heads east towards the lighthouse and makes a U-turn to watch the sunset. Then off to eat. This year the owner of the restaurant provided us with complimentary pina colodas to cool off!



Healeys ready to circle Jones Beach Water Tower.



Sunset from Fire Island



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Philadelphia

by John Heffron

By the time you read this another Encounter will be in the books. Hopefully it will be a memorable one for all who attended. I, for one, can attest in advance that I had a great time and did my duty in bidding up the Healey watch for a good cause! Hopefully I didn't end up with it as who needs 3 Healey watches?

Summer is upon us and car activities are peaking. Those of us from our region, the Dunckleys, Fosters, Leshers & I had a great time in late June in Canada at Conclave Charlevoix in La Malbaie, Quebec. We mingled with fellow AHSTC members, the Borders, Schneiders, Coxes, Ferrants, Broduers, Felds and Kunkles as well as fellow Healey fans from across the country. It was only 700+ miles away but a different world for us non-Francophiles. We had the opportunity to make new friends, see new cars, and enjoy the Healey camaraderie with 375 other fanatics for a few short days. It was nice catching up with Carlisle Import show friends from the AHCA New England & Southern Michigan regions. I have found that Conclaves are very similar yet somewhat different than Encounters in my experience. Not better, nor worse, but definitely larger in scale. Events are similar, but a little more spread out geographically, and there seems to be a Big Healey orientation with fewer Sprites. I am constantly impressed by those road warriors who drive their cars to these events from as far away as the Carolinas or Missouri. My hats go off to the Dunckleys and Schneiders who made the round trip this year through both fair and foul weather in their Healeys.

While at Conclave, I, along with AHCA New England Club President, Pete Sturtevant, made a presentation to the AHCA Delegate's Board on co-sponsoring a joint meet in 2015. Our proposal was enthusiastically accepted and we look forward to working together to hold one of the biggest and best Healey gatherings in memory. To those of you who have ongoing projects, start getting to work on them so you can show them off in 2015. We are moving full speed ahead and will have much more info as we finalize hotel and event details.

Our monthly meeting took place at Mariano's on the 15th at the beginning of the heat wave. Two brave souls, Ray Donovan & Rob Morrow ignored the oppressive heat and drove their Healeys. The Dunckleys, Urbans, Leo Kob, Jim Leshner, Rob Morrow, Randy Alkins and returning from long ago member, Bob Gollon shared pictures of the Quebec event as well as Bob's BJ7 which is getting real close to getting back on the road again. Ask Lois Dunckley to show you a picture of Ray's his "60's" mode in Quebec. We had a great time and enjoyed our beverages and meals discussing how much fun we were going to have at Encounter.

Look for an e-flash in August that will give details for a fall picnic and some fall tours. Our monthly meeting will NOT take place at Mariano's but will be held on site at Encounter.



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Harrisburg

by Don Hoffer



The Harrisburg Region's Spring Tour at Moonshine Church.

After meeting at the Grand Pooh-Bah's domicile for morning refreshments we set out on the regions frequently delayed Spring Tour. Historically, this event gets held closer to summer than spring and this year's tour was no exception. Our caravan set out on Saturday June 29th.

A decent turnout and fair weather were a plus and the tour's highlight was quite unique. Picture this - nice 2 lane road past a very old cemetery, cars parked across from graveyard and over a dozen people standing around one of the tombstones. Drivers passing by saw no hearse, no hole, no flowers or tent. We obviously were not burying someone. No shovels were evident, so we weren't exhuming anybody either, so why were we there. We didn't know either until Joe started revealing a tale from long ago involving an insurance scam, conspiracy and murder. Six local outstanding citizens were charged for the murder and at their arraignment a reporter noticed they all had blue eyes and he coined the term "The blue eyed six" by which the trial had been known ever since. It drew a lot of national attention at the time and led later to some stricter insurance regulations. Now how is that for a local history lesson? The tour ended back where we started so we could do what we do best. Gorge ourselves on picnic fare. A very nice day-thanks Joe and Barb.

The regular meeting for 18 June met the same fate as the Spring Tour and was held on Wed. the 10th of July at the Soda Jerk in Hummelstown. The 17 attendees were briefed by V.P. Brockman, on Encounter Charity Auction details and was followed by Don Shneider's report on Conclave. Seems that they took "off site" to new limits involving the car show, gymkhana etc. and we're not talking just down the road here, they were farther than you could imagine. Don claims they pulled it off OK. Del Border also attended and took best time of the day while Don got 2nd in his class in the autocross. Nice job for both these guys.

Bob Preston went into great detail in his update on the status of our Encounter preparations. He covered 16 items that ate up the rest of the meeting. (Big surprise - it was an Encounter planning session, right!)

The Harrisburg Regions Summer Picnic was hosted again by Fred and Sonya Bennett. Their place is about 4 to 4 ½ miles east of Ft. Hunter on Rte 443 and their venue is becoming a tradition we all enjoy. They take care of cooking and attendees provide side dishes. We really get some good side dishes that way and no

Harrisburg Cont...

one goes away hungry. Well that time honored formula worked again and despite being located on the North edge of the region at the end of a really hot, two week heat wave with a treat of thunder storms in the afternoon, eleven members made it. Boy, did we have a good time! The rain never materialized, the fans on the screened in porch kept things rather tolerable and the food was excellent - a real summer picnic. A well deserved Thank You goes to the Bennetts and all those who brought that fine fare.

Next up is Encounter which we anticipate you could attend. The September Flash will chronicle our efforts as well as yours. Hope we both did well.



Joe Spear describes the grizzly murder of Joseph Raber by the Blue Eyed Six.

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Brandywine

by *Ernie Leser*

The Old Canal Inn, now known as Crabby Dick's, was the scene of Brandywine's July get-together on Saturday the 13th.

As has been the case for most of June and now July, the weather was hot and humid with some sun but always a threat of rain and thunderstorms. With that in mind, the only brave soul to arrive in a Healey was Dave Ehret in his pristine dark blue BJ8. The rest of us chose rain proof, AC equipped comfort – way to go Dave!

Besides Dave, Chuck and Sue Ott, Pete Roberts and Dee Caffrey, and Joan and I attended. Crabby Dick's is located in Delaware City facing the Delaware river. Delaware City is where the original entrance to the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal was when it consisted of a series of locks. In later years, the canal was re-constructed to be at sea level and thus the need for the locks was eliminated. Its present entrance is now a bit south of the original one. The town retains its colonial look in addition to being the port for the ferry to Pea Patch Island – the site of the well worth seeing Fort Delaware.

While enjoying the crab dishes and the Yard beer, discussions took place concerning recent repairs to our cars. It would appear that more of these are now being done by the professional mechanic as vs. the owners themselves. Maybe it is a case of "I've done that before, and I don't really want to tackle it again". It would be wonderful if the weather were decent so that we could enjoy driving our cars more. Oh well --- .

Future Brandywine Events are as follows:

August 8th – 10th: Encounter 2013, Hershey, PA.

September, Saturday 14th: Crab Crawl and Feast, the Philip's place, St. Michaels, MD.

October, Saturday 5th, 1pm. Brandywine Region Picnic. The Leser residence, Elkton, MD. RSVP to Joan by Sept. 28th (410-398-7308).



*Brandywine Cont...***AHSTC BRANDYWINE 2013 EVENT CALENDAR****AUGUST**

- **8-10th. Encounter 2013.** Hershey, PA.
- **24-25th. New Garden Flying Field Air & Car Show,** Toughkenamon, PA.

SEPTEMBER

- **Sat. 14th. Crab Crawl and Feast.** The Philip's place, St. Michaels, MD.
- **Sat. 21st. British Car Club of Delaware Show,** Delaware City, DE.
- **Sun. 15th. Hagley Car Show,** Wilmington, DE.
- **Sat. 28th. Classic and Exotic Car Show,** Greenville, DE.

OCTOBER

- **Sat. 5th, 1pm. Brandywine Region Picnic.** The Leser residence, Elkton, MD. RSVP to Joan by Sept. 28th (410-398-7308).
- **Sun. 13th. Brandywine Motor Club (BMC) auto-cross,** Glasgow, DE.

NOVEMBER

- **Thurs. 14th, 7 pm. Elections.** Iron Hill Brewery, The Riverfront, Wilmington, DE.

DECEMBER

- **Sat. 7th, 6 pm. Christmas Party and Ugly Gift Exchange.** The Zalewski's residence, North East, MD. RSVP to Diane by Nov. 30th (410-287-5885).

JANUARY 2014

- **Thursday 23rd, 7 pm. Events Planning.** Matilda's restaurant, Newark, DE.



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Lehigh Valley

by Mike Bradley

So far the summer has not been conducive to driving our cars. June was pretty much a washout and July has been a scorcher. But, there's still hope. As I write this, the sky has cleared and it is 77 degrees and much less humid. I hope it lasts.

We had our annual Region picnic last night. Of course, we had torrential rains and no one could drive their LBC,s. Typical LV picnic weather. Bob and Mary Pritchett were the gracious hosts this year and did a fine job. Ken & Cindy Beck and Phil and Jane Nase were present. Gerry & EJ Kunkle spoke about their trip to the AHCA Conclave in Quebec. Sounds like everyone enjoyed themselves. We had quite a few AHSTC folks attending, including our own Rick and Sue Brodeur. Bob and Sue Snyder regaled us with their recent exploits in Maine. Lots of beautiful scenery, good weather and lobster. Bob and Mary just returned from a trip to Ireland and imparted some great information on their experiences. We discussed our 2014 Encounter. We have reserved a site, which will be announced at the Hershey Encounter.

I have been a stay at home most of the summer, with the exception of a bike trip to Vermont and, of course, the Montreal F1 race previously mentioned in the July Flash.

I did, however, venture to Quebec in mid-July, as well, to view the Historic Races at the Mt Tremblant



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Lehigh Valley Cont...

circuit. The feature car was Buggati and they had several 20's era racers participating. In addition there were about twenty 60's and 70's era F1 Gran Prix cars, including Mario's # 5 Lotus John Player Special. It was a bit disconcerting to note that I saw all of them race in their prime. Does that make me a relic as well ?

There were Maserati's, Ferrari's, Lotus' (or is it Loti ?), a couple of MG's and our friend Terry Lippincott with his E-Type. Terry said that this was his favorite venue, an opinion shared by several of the driver's I spoke with. I was torn between a '55 Maserati and a '64 Maserati for my favorite. The real treat, for me, was the inclusion of the early and later 60's Can Am cars. I never got to see them run in their heyday. What a show that must have been. Loud, proud, unrestricted and extremely fast. Part of the later Can Am class included several IMSA cars. Really cool.

No Healey's, except for a nice White, with Blue interior, BJ8 from Quebec in the parking area.

If you ever get a chance to see this track, it is well worth the drive. Mt Tremblant is about one and a half hours NW of Montreal and it is a beautiful area. The weather was a perfect low 80's with low humidity.

Next up is the Encounter in two weeks. Harrisburg has promised a special weekend. I hope to see you all there.

Until then, Happy Healeying.

AHSTC LEHIGH VALLEY REGION EVENT CALENDAR, 2013

AUGUST

- **2-4: Das Awkscht Fescht, Macungie, PA**
- **8-10: AHSTC Encounter, Hershey/Grantville, PA**
- **17-18: Duryea Hillclimb, Reading, PA**
- **19: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner**

SEPTEMBER

- **8: Sunday Morning Tour to Wherever**
- **14-15: Fall Weatherly Hillclimb, Weatherly, PA**
- **16: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner**
- **TBD: Tech Session**

OCTOBER

- **5: Autumn Leaf Auto Show, Moravian Academy**
- **TBD: Tour to Polo Match @ Tinicum Park (British car show day)**
- **12: AACA Fall Meet, Hershey, PA**
- **21: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner - Nominations**
- **TBD: Fall Wine Tour**

NOVEMBER

- **2: Saturday Morning Tour to Wherever**
- **TBD: Tech Session**
- **18: Monthly Meeting, Top Diner - Elections**

DECEMBER

- **TBD: LV Region Christmas Party & Monthly Meeting**

North Jersey

by George Crombie

Here it is, that time of the month again when our Regional articles are due to the FLASH editors so you can keep abreast of what's happening in your Region, and beyond!

The North Jersey's Regional monthly meeting was held on Wednesday night, July 17th, at 1900 hours (that's 7:00 PM to all us civilians). This month we gathered at The Chimney Rock Inn in Gillette. Those attending included Steve Jekogian*, Steve Feld*, Ian Kessen*, Bob Pense, Allen Rosenberg, Mark Goodman, and George Crombie. Those with asterisks drove their Healeys. I tried to claim half an asterick, but I couldn't figure out how to do that on my keyboard. There is a short story that goes with it. Since first things should, naturally, come first, I'll spin the story then recap the meeting. Please bear with me.

I arrived first, followed by Steve Jekogian by less than 10 minutes. Steve congratulated me on driving my little red Sprite, and announcing that he drove his Healey, too. Only thing was, I hadn't driven Little Red. He said, "You're kidding! There's a red Sprite out in the parking lot; I thought it was yours!" I know I've been getting a little senile lately, but I could have sworn that I had driven in air-conditioned comfort. "I didn't drive Red up," I insisted.

Long story short, we both headed down to the parking lot to see who was seeing things. Lo and behold; there sat a red 1969 Sprite. I know darn well (I think?) that it wasn't there when I parked well within sight of it, not 10 minutes earlier. This Sprite was in a lot better shape than Red (don't tell her I said that, or I'll be pushing her the next several times I take her out for a spin!), and it definitely was not mine. As we stood there wondering whose car it was, a couple came by and asked if one of us owned the red and black Austin-Healey. Steve said that he did, and asked if they owned the Sprite. Just as they denied ownership, a voice came from beyond the next row of cars claiming, "I own the red Sprite."

We spent the next few minutes talking with Ray, trying to sign him up as a new member. He was at The Rock having dinner with some friends, and had just stepped out for a smoke, when he saw us gathering around his little girl (I mean "car"). We told him that we were having a Regional club meeting upstairs, and invited him to stop in for a minute or two, if he got the chance. By this time, Ian Kessen and Steve Feld drove up in their Healeys and we made a party of it, heading back inside. By the time we left, the Sprite was gone, leaving me to wonder if it had actually been there at all. Like an idiot, I had left my camera upstairs on the table. Duh!

Now, back to the meeting. After we had all placed our drink orders and most of us were still perusing the menu, Ian called the



North Jersey Cont...

meeting to order and we got down to business. We touched on some of the more popular upcoming shows and events, including Encounter (which will either be in progress or history by the time you read this); FallFest (scheduled for Saturday, Sept 7th in Flemington); the Warren Car Show (the following day, Sept. 8th); and the British Car Show in Ocean Grove on Sept. 27th. Andy and Martha Smith offered to host the annual Post-Encounter Pool Party at their home in Chester on Saturday, August 17th, with a rain date of the 18th. They request that you R.S.V.P. A.S.A.P. I think I got all those letters in the correct order, even though I have absolutely no idea what it spells.

Bob Pense and Allen Rosenberg had gone out to Pennsylvania to see the Venezias. They spent some time visiting and working on cars; generally having a heck of a good time. A couple of tech session topics were discussed, as well. It seems that with age, the insides of the oil and clutch flex lines (as well as the rubber brake hoses) can deteriorate and leave one stranded. It would, therefore, be prudent to give these items a bit of attention, and maybe replace them every few years, under the adage "better safe than sorry!" Quite often, when you get a new set of contact breaker points, they have a fine film of light oil them. Once the engine warms up, the oil is spread throughout the inside of the distributor cap, causing rough running, or even worse. This can lead to a perplexing problem that is rather difficult to diagnose. To prevent this, be sure to thoroughly wipe down and inspect you new contact breaker set before installation. Another topic that was brought up involved my replacement. A name was thrown into the ring, seconded, voted on, and passed (almost unanimously). I think the only dissenting vote was from the nominee, whose identity will be re-

vealed at...A) Encounter; B) the Post Encounter Pool Party at Andy and Martha Smith's; or C) at the next Regional monthly meeting. Join us at one (or more) of these events for the hot, late-breaking news! Steve Feld passed along the news that the joint event (Encounter and Conclave) is expected to take place in the Gettysburg, PA area during July 2015. I think I got that right; check your Healey Calendar to be sure...



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North Jersey Cont...

There seems to be a little, shall we say “confusion”, concerning the pictures on page 5 in last month’s FLASH, under the caption “What is that?” For the record, I will take the responsibility for the correct identification (with learned input from those concerned), and Steve Jekogian can award the “great prize” as advertised. I understand that Steve had received answers within minutes of the pictures being published. I sent along the information as I had it, getting it from “the horse’s mouth”. Things may not necessarily be as they seem. Hopefully, all will be revealed at this month’s Encounter. Ah! The suspense of it all!

Our very own Steve and Ann Feld trailered their Healey up to Charlevoix, Canada this past June to attend their very first Conclave. For those who do not know, Conclave is the Austin Healey Club of America’s (AHCA) annual week-long extravaganza. It is akin to the AHSTC annual Encounter, and usually attracts from 200 to 350 registrants from all over the US, Canada, the UK, and occasionally Japan and Australia. Steve reports that he and Ann had a pretty good time of it, and are anxious to Conclave again! Might the fact that they brought home the hardware for placing 2nd in class in the popularity voting have something to do with that? Maybe; but more likely just the fact that they had a really good time of it had a lot to do with it. Steve sums it up pretty well, so we’ll let him do the honors. So without further ado, here’s Steve!

Don’t forget to check your e-Flashes on a regular basis for the latest happenings, and until then, I’ll be driving topless... I hope to see you out there doing likewise!



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Conclave Charlevoix 2013

Reflections of a Conclave Rookie

by Steve Feld



This October marks four years of my most recent ownership of a big Healey, so it was about time, or past time, for an inaugural trip to Conclave. This is the Austin Healey Club of America's annual national, or this year, international, get-together. The 2013 event was held June 23-29 in La Malbaie, Quebec, Canada, better understood as western France.

Although some family members and non-Healey friends may have wondered about my sanity in trailering a 54 year old car 620 miles each way, any AHSTC understand, if not endorse the trek. In turned out that apparently makes my drive look like a local trip to pick the 200 registrants we met included Healey aficionado-Georgia, Missouri and Wisconsin. Canadian Healey represented with a large group from Ontario who had a couple from Winnipeg who drove 1900 miles to attend Healeys while others experienced the joy of Healey heat.

As this was our (my patient wife, Ann, accompanied driving) first Healey trailering adventure, it took some



member would at least the attraction of Conclave up some Stabil. Among dos from Texas, Florida, owners were also well 10-12 hour drive as well tend. Many trailered their motoring through rain and

me and shared some of the trial and error to get the

Conclave Rookie Cont...

Healey loaded and secured without damaging the exhaust. We left early morning on Saturday June 22 and after becoming accustomed to feeling every road irregularity twice or thrice, we arrived at Canadian customs in about five hours. Not sure what to expect from Canadian or US border officials, the border crossings each way presented no issues or long delays. In fact, only one other vehicle was present at the Canadian customs booths when we presented our passports. It turned out to be another trailered Healey which I later discovered was owned by AHSTC member Jon Arndt.



Although the drive to Canada was sunny, it didn't take long for the rain to start and continue and continue. Hauling a Healey with side-curtains on an open trailer for about 150 miles in the rain in traffic is not something that relaxes you but is still drier than driving a Healey with side-curtains in the rain for 15 miles! Our driving experience around Montreal was consistently slow and congested – similar to the Garden State Parkway on Fridays in July! The weather and traffic cleared by the time we arrived in Quebec City.

So far we had traversed interstate-type highways but that changed about 10 kilometers east of Quebec City. (One quickly becomes adept at converting kilometers to miles after entering Canada.)

Route 138 is a two lane road with occasional three lane passing zones and runaway truck ramps on the steeper downhill sections. Our trip to La Malbaie meant going over mountains with an elevation change of almost 2000 feet. The spectacular views of the St. Lawrence River and the mountains and valleys more than made up for recurring downshifts, accelerations and braking.

Arriving at the Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu around 4 PM we settled in with a simply beautiful view of the St. Lawrence River (several miles wide)



Nick Ferrant at the Gymkhana

Conclave Rookie Cont...

and savored a walk around the grounds after our 11 hour ride. Members of the host Austin Healey Club of Quebec greeted us in the dedicated Healey parking lot. Ann inexplicably did not visit the adjacent casino that first evening. It turned out that Saturday's views of the St. Lawrence were the clearest we were to experience all week.

On Sunday we drove back west to explore the old walled section of Quebec City. Our Healey did not accompany us. Amazing how driving trailerless and without rain made the additional three hours in our tow vehicle much more relaxed than the previous day. At lunch in a crepe restaurant we were serenaded by a talented guitarist singing, among other tunes, John Denver's "Take Me Home, Country Roads" (West Virginia) in French and English. Sunday evening kicked off Conclave 2013 with a pizza party, introductions and an outline of the week's events. A brief tour of the casino afterwards could not be avoided.

Monday morning was dedicated to washing the road spray dirt from the Healey and taking advantage of the Meguiar's tent where their personnel detailed any Healey that waited in line. After refreshing our Healey's looks, we drove over big hills and small dales to the local airport for the Gymkhana and Funkhana. AHSTC's timing equipment impressed all who witnessed the Gymkhana. Nick Ferrant, Del Border and Don Schneider all won awards for their Gymkhana efforts. Good showing by AHSTC!

Following the afternoon's ice cream social, Monday evening found us with a group at the Bootleggers restaurant. A former speakeasy where the entrance consists of descending many steps only then to climb a spiral staircase to the attic restaurant/bar. Only one seating per table each evening includes the meal (I had the elk filet), a 45 minute



Conclave Rookie Cont...

tour of the historic building and then lively dancing to a band that sang the lyrics in both French and English. As they say, a good time was had by all! On return a visit to the casino just happened to be convenient.

The popularity show was held on Tuesday in Baie St. Paul, about 40 kilometers southwest over a scenic two lane road overlooking the St. Lawrence River. We enjoyed a Quebec-style lunch involving French fries covered with mushrooms and gravy and finished it off with maple sugar pie. No calories or fat here! A local renowned organist then treated us to an hour long extemporaneous accompaniment to the original Ben Hur silent movie circa 1925.

Fortunately, they had edited the movie to a shorter version but the crowd, including me, would have better endured about 20-30 minutes less concert. Too anxious to get outside and enjoy the lovely Quebec day and our Healeys, I guess.

Continuing our Tuesday dietary imprudence, we partook of the Conclave arranged traditional Quebecois dinner on the floor of a nearby ice hockey arena (no ice this time of year but the Zamboni posed for photos). Bean soup, baked beans with maple syrup, meat pie, pickles, more maple sugar pie and other such delicacies fulfilled our caloric allotment for the next month! The casino beckoned again upon our return.

Whale watching Wednesday was then upon us. The St. Lawrence River is several miles wide about an hour north-east of La Malbaie and is the summer home to 13 species of whales. Because of almost continuous drizzle that day, we elected not to drive our Healey although others were more hardy including one couple who drove topless (the car!) wearing yellow rain slickers for some protection. We saw four species of whales with the white belugas being the most notable. Our success in whale watching was not matched at the casino that evening.

While others participated in the five hour rally on Thursday,



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Conclave Rookie Cont...

I opted out because my skill level would have made it an eight hour rally. Truthfully, driving on unfamiliar roads directed by French signs during a rainy forecast, which turned out to be an occasional drizzle, did not appeal to me. Loading the car on the trailer, preparing for Friday's departure and enjoying friends at our own hospitality reception occupied the day until the concluding dinner that evening.

The awards dinner was as expected, i.e., longer than necessary, although my popularity show award for second place in the Mark I category was a surprise to me. As mentioned earlier, AHSTC members showed their driving prowess by taking several awards in the Gymkhana. Best of Show went to a Massachusetts couple whose BJ8 was painted a beautiful metallic green pearl that matched the color of the Healey Westland that Donald and Geoff Healey drove across the US in 1950. John Nikas updated the attendees on "Grace" and several clubs pledged money to the cause.

Friday brought heavy rain most of the way back to the States and included more heavy congestion around Montreal. The sun did begin to shine just as we approached the US border and continued in the US for the rest of our trip. After a stop to see friends in Lake George, we arrived home in New Jersey early on Sunday afternoon. Fortuitously, the rain began again only after unloading and garaging the Healey and unpacking our tow vehicle. The requisite drying of the carpeting, padding and other wet areas then started.

I should mention that two nominal "tech" sessions were held. One was conducted by John Chatham, the famous Healey racer who flew over from England for the event. Unfortunately, his heavy English accent prevented me from enjoying his talk about his experiences as much as I had hoped. Maybe my wife is right when she says I need to listen better. The other tech session was a talk by Baird Foster on "DMH, The Man." Baird is the unofficial historian of AHCA and based on extensive research and



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Conclave Rookie Cont...

interviews presented unique insights on Donald Healey.

As would be expected, several repairs were necessary among the attendees, or rather, their Healeys. The highlight was the runaway trailer in the parking lot that almost collided with a BT7 on which the owner had spent most of the day replacing his water pump.

Although the casino took more than it gave and in spite of the rainy travel weather and 11.4 miles/gallon, we truly enjoyed our first Conclave. The friendly locals, most of whom spoke both French and English, the exquisite scenery, the comfortable accommodations, and the camaraderie of Healey owners all made for a memorable week. In fact, already we've scheduled June 15-19, 2014 for Conclave 2014 at The Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, Virginia. Coincidentally, The Homestead happens to be where Ann and I spent our honeymoon almost 40 years ago and only a couple miles away from Conclave 2014 is John Denver's West Virginia!!

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News & Classifieds

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John Morrison johnmorr@verizon.net

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jlombardi47@verizon.net
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A beautiful and well-maintained 69 GT with newly rebuilt engine, entire front and rear suspension redone. Car does not smoke or even drip oil! This car is 110% mechanically perfect. Cosmetically it has a nice white paint a few small bubbles have popped up over the past several years. Too much work to list - all receipts come with the car. The car has been maintained by Motor Car Garage in NJ. Please call Ben for details. 267-970-9671: bkenion@snip.net

1960 BUGEYE SPRITE

2nd owner since new, original 948 engine, ribcase transmission, drum brakes, includes boxes of parts including NOS BMC crankshaft in box, extra 948 engine block and head, extra ribcase transmission, aftermarket hardtop, re-cored radiator. Rough shape, stored outdoors for about 10 years of its life. Asking \$2,000 OBO for the whole lot. See photos.

Contact George at 610-459-5942

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Classifieds Cont...

1959 BUGEYE: RESTORED 2004:

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WANTED

I am looking parts for 65 mark 3 sprite, seats, front turn signals maybe both bumpers. Thanks Dave Hutchison 717 7320048 or wing912@aol.com

1969 SPRITE

Am interested in selling a 69 sprite convt garage kept 31k 74 point
Donald.laubach1@gmail.com

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kathy fasick kathyfasick@gmail.com
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- interior bits
- seats (rough, dead coverings)
- wheels
- bumpers

asking \$300 obo for all of it. P

arts are in Wisconsin about an hour north of Milwaukee, and i would prefer not to ship

This stuff has to go as i am taking down the barn they are in - if they aren't gone by spring i will start taking it to scrap.

John mowogman@aol.com

Classifieds Cont...

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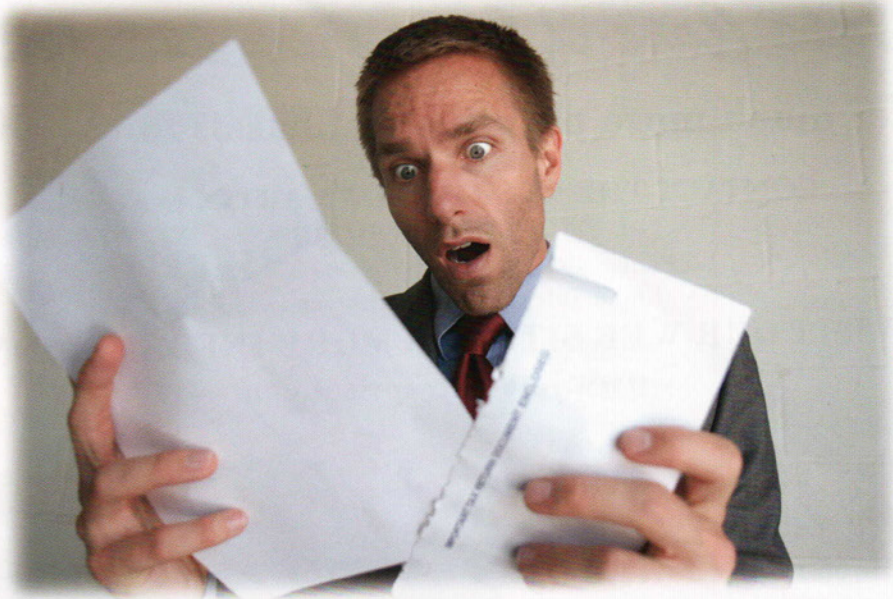
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AHSTC encourages the submission of articles to the Editor for publication. There is no restriction on content, other than it should be of interest to the readership and Healey related.

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