

THE RESONATOR

Official Newsletter of the Austin-Healey Club of Southern Ontario



“Prez Sez”

Auld Lang Syne?

Another Healey Christmas get together has passed and in spite of a highway closure and threatening weather, was well attended and generally enjoyed. Olde St. Nic & his helper put in a welcome appearance and he certainly seems to be getting closer to his 'olde selfe'. Anna & Joy deserve a big vote of thanks for steering this event for the past several years. They both put a lot of time & effort into it. The much coveted Dave Koch memorial driving trophy was awarded to Ed & Anna Orr this year, and was well deserved.

There has been some measure of dissatisfaction with our current meeting place and this situation will certainly be getting some attention from the directors. But finding another place that is reasonably centrally located, has adequate parking, decent food & drink, willing to provide a private room for us at no cost and most importantly willing to host us once a month, is very difficult to find and becoming more so. If anyone has any good suggestions, they would be welcomed.

Your new executive is champing at the bit to get going on next years' programme, so if there is anything you would like to see included, please contact Martyn or anyone on the executive and bring your idea to their attention. Better yet, offer to help organise it!

It won't be long until the familiar words of Burns' poem ring out from every year end party, signaling the end of the old year but more importantly, I think, the start of the new. It is customary at this time to pass on good wishes, and Levina & I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very happy Christmas and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. It is also traditional this time of year, to make a host of soon forgotten resolutions, but if you make just one resolution this year that you mean to keep, make it the one to drive your Healey more than you did last year.

Drive your Healey. They like it and you will too!

Bob Yule

View From the Navigator's Seat

Well here we are with Christmas Season upon us! A time to reflect on events throughout the year and to also a time to be grateful for what we have and are able to enjoy. We have had several friends and neighbours who have passed away recently and it makes one stop and think how vulnerable we all really are and to make the most of what is within our grasp and be thankful. Our 2014 Healey driving year was full of enjoyable events starting with our most important Ancaster Flea Market in April and in every month following all summer long – we enjoyed many wonderful Healey get-togethers ending with our annual Christmas Party December 10th. Our election night at the November meeting was only slightly changed with Scott Morriss stepping down as secretary and we are pleased to announce that Carol Turl has now taken on those duties! Welcome to the group Carol, I am sure you will enjoy our group – and the good thing is our President does not make us attend many meetings! Although it does seem like 2015 driving days are a long way off, it will mean people working on a project car ie: Greg Newton will be most anxious to get his new passion – ready for the 2015 Season.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very “MERRY CHRISTMAS” and a “HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR”!

DECEMBER 2014

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GOODWOOD THE REVIVAL EXPERIENCE

Let me start by saying that this was a return to Goodwood for me, a second time around. Yes, I expected row of Lister Jaguars, a field of D-types, Ferraris of all specs, and a brace of ERAs. Where else can you expect.....

Goodwood is place where the 'period' car parking lot is twice the size of British Car Day, where, as you walk in from the modern car lot you pass an Austin-Healey next to a DB5 Aston, where Minis and Cortinas park between E-types and DB2 Astons, where a pre-war AC get overlooked. And this was the short cut to the gate. You could spend all weekend in the parking lot.

To get to the gate you have to go through the 'over the road' vendor area, which was once housed track side but now has expanded ten-fold. Cars and parts vie with lipstick, furs, gowns, amusement rides and must have models for a Phythian grandson – BN4 in ice-blue over white no less! You can have a 'new' MGB, turbo Mazda power, just over \$100,000CDN – we don't pay the 20%VAT. All you need is a chassis plate – have one if anybody is interested. Plenty of period Jags, Bentleys etc., to be honest, I don't remember seeing a Healey for sale, but then I got distracted a lot.

Once over the road, that is, in the grounds, there are more vendors. Sir Stirling will be signing books at 16:00, and of course other distractions abound, "Glam Cab" for Mr. Phythian! Its a 'flat-cap' makers paradise, watch where your going, cars and well-dressed ladies in 'period', red crinolines abound, and watch out for those St. Trinians school girls – off to foil the Great Train Robbers yet again. We found our way under the course and now it is a sea of racing cars and airplanes.

The paddock is awash with Mustangs, Jaguars, red and a green Ferrari, Formula Juniors from the later period, Team Lotus in a line. Yes, there are Healeys, 100s S&M, but no Sprites this year. Will have to make do with Turners, TVRs, Ginettas, Elites, MGBs and a Tornado Talisman and Gilbern. Yes, a slight disappointment but then there are three Scarab-Offenhausers, and Canadian content from Sadler and Chinook. Nat Adams should be proud, "Miss Veedol" is alive and well! Proper dress required gentlemen, no admittance to the GRRRC paddock without a tie, turtlenecked Mr. "P" is forced to slip in on the sly. There's the Ferguson F1 car, and a pre-war Alfa, and of course ERAs, Cooper Jaguars, McLaren-Elva and the tribute cars to Jackie Stewart. Formula 1 BRMs, Tyrrells and a Group 7 McLaren (allowed out of period) a Marcos – that ran, a Rover-BRM that stopped running on Friday, and just beyond; a tribute car for John Surtees. Its been 50 years so Big John is here to drive his 1964 mount, flown in from the U.S. For the occasion.

And speaking of flying, the Canadian Lancaster, with its British counterpart fly by with Hurricane and Spitfire escort. Happened to be in Britain, couldn't give Goodwood a miss; his Lordship wouldn't have stood for it. Plenty more aircraft to have a look at on the field, arriving all morning long.

Check the programme, keep the "ear-wig" in so I can here whats going on. Children in toy cars on the main straight: must be the Settrington Cup. Now its the turn of motorbikes. Thirsty work this, fortunately there are pubs nearby, excellent ales, and food for all tastes, even organic from the Goodwood farm. His Lordship doesn't miss a trick. Period costumes, period vendor stalls, and period vehicles on the track. That's why we are here, 16 trophy races over the weekend, its the Goodwood revival. The second time around, it was even better, and now I'm already overdue for another visit. That means waiting till next September!



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A.H.C.A. DELEGATES MEETING NOVEMBER 7-9, 2014

On Friday November 07 I attended as the delegate for AHCSO to the meeting in Plainfield .

A total of 35 officers and delegates were in attendance.

We were warned by John May of the Atlanta Club that they had been getting invoices and letters threatening legal action for their use of some stock footage in their newsletter, even though they had permission to use it. In general this was thought to be a phishing expedition and was being ignored. Other clubs also commented that they had been receiving similar letters, but were also ignoring them.

AHCA membership stands at 3058 which is up 4 from last year. Southern Ontario had made the most use of any Club, of the free membership program with 7.

The Club now has a greater on line presence with the new web-site, a Facebook page and the partnership with Hagerty Ins. with a Healey section on their web-site. There are also tech videos coming on line and on You Tube and targeted ads on both Facebook and the web.

Conclave in Hot Springs had 263 registrations and cleared \$16697.00, half of which was given to National.

Conclave 2015 is being held July 19-24 in Gettesburg as a joint event with the Sports & Touring Club and called Enclave. They have over 100 registrations to date and expect 300 cars. Gerry Coker and Mike Dale are guests so far.

A.H.C.A. DELEGATES MEETING PLAINFIELD ILLINOIS (CONT'D)

Conclave 2016 will be in Cincinnati on the s. side of the river June 12-18 Host hotel is the Marriott. Room rate is \$99.00 This will be the 40th anniversary of Conclave.

Three clubs are being talked to about 2017, they are Golden Gate proposing Monterey Bay, Smokey Mountain proposing Severiville and Kansas City proposing the Ozarks in Southern Missouri.

There has not been an insurance premium increase for three years, but it is expected to rise between 10 – 25% in 2015.

Healey Marque is the single biggest expense and costs over \$90,000.00 a year to produce and deliver. A tech editor is being sought.

Regalia is now handled by an outside contractor and details are in Healey Marque.

The budget for 2015 was approved, little changed from this year and AHCA has a cash balance of \$91,000.00

Merger talks with the west coast Austin Healey Club USA are still ongoing although still producing more heat than light. The talks with Sports & Touring Club are going to resume in earnest after Enclave and a merger is very likely.

Major group discussions centered on Conclave, Safety and Club structure in the future.

The meeting in 2015 is slated for the same location on Nov 6-8.

Submitted by Bob Yule. Delegate AHCSO

CHRISTMAS PUB NIGHT - DECEMBER 10



MORE CHRISTMAS PUB PICTURES



PROPOSED EVENTS 2015

Events for the 2015 season are well into the planning stages. The event for January is set but all events are subject to the approval of the executive. Suggestions for events are welcomed and all assistance is greatly appreciated.

Martyn Ridley, Events Coordinator

January:

Tech Session: 10:30-12:30 January 31st
"Shocks" - Russ Bamsey - Paris

February:

No events Planned

March:

Tech session: TBA "What to check on a car that has been sitting for years"

AutoFarm - Monkton

Theatre: TBA - could be early April
"Faulty Towers Dinner Theatre" - Toronto

April:

Ancaster Flea Market. April 19th

May:

Road Tour "Get out and Drive" May 9th
<Carlisle Flea Market - 15th-17th>

June:

<London British & Caddy-man early in month>
Wine tour - Anna & Ed Orr's

July:

Conclave: "Roundheads and Royalists"
Civil War Tour <Lindsay?>

August:

Tour: "Ice Cream and Overnight to <Port Perry>"
8th&9th
BBQ "Salmon or Salmon Wanna BeBQ" 29th
Dianne & Laurie Wilford's - Cambridge

September:

Road Tour: "Kids are back in School -
Lets go to the beach" 13th (not Dover!!!)
<British Car day 20th>

October:

<Santa Toy Run Milton - Tentative>
Weekend Away - Waring House Prince Edward
County car show, wine & art tour etc.
(With another club?) 16-18th

November:

No event planned but open to ideas

December:

Xmas Event at Pub Night

<Not club/AHCA events but recommended
to members>



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