

VOL. 2 ISSUE 40 · JANUARY 2024

THE RESONATOR

Official Newsletter of the
Austin Healey Club of Southern Ontario

A Christmas Message From Our President

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone has their winter projects under way. I know it didn't feel like winter over the Christmas holidays, but don't worry it is going to happen!

As for the 2024 driving season, the Austin Healey Club of Southern Ontario Executive are working on some great in-person events and hope to see you / meet you out and about.

If you would like to be more involved in planning our 2024 in-person events, please check out our website and contact anyone on the Executive with your ideas.

In the meantime, let's enjoy some Zoom presentations at our monthly meetings held the second Wednesday of the month.

Look forward to seeing you on Zoom.

Heather Doust

AHCSO President

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We dedicate ourselves to the preservation of the marque through continued use, mutual enjoyment and sustained support.

We welcome all levels of expertise and all tastes. Together we accomplish and appreciate more!

Club Meeting & Socials Information

Monthly Club Meetings:

2nd Wednesday of each month via Zoom

Meeting Time: 7:30PM

Where: Via Zoom in the comfort of your own home

In Person Meetings:

Please check the Events Page of the Newsletter & Website

Website: www.ahcso.ca

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/485593945108748>





Events - AHCSO & Of Interest

2024

JANUARY 10 - AHSCO ZOOM MEETING - SPECIAL PRESENTATION

FEBRUARY 14 - AHCSO ZOOM MEETING

MARCH 13 - AHCSO ZOOM MEETING

MAY 13-17 - CALIFORNIA HEALEY WEEK, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA

MAY 19-23 - RENDEZVOUS, SOOKE, BRITISH COLUMBIA

MAY 20-24 - SUMMIT 24, SIMSBURY, CT

SEPTEMBER 15 - BRITISH CAR DAY, BRONTE PARK, OAKVILLE

SEPTEMBER 15-19 - CONCLAVE 2024, ELKHART LAKE, WI

OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 3, 2024 - SOUTHEASTERN CLASSIC, DOBSON, NC
*****NOTE CHANGE IN LOCATION & DATES**

AHCSO Zoom Meeting



WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10, 2024

Check your email for instructions on how to join the meeting. If you need assistance, please contact someone on the executive!



January Zoom - Special Presentation

BY PETER LORE

- MARK YOUR CALENDARS -

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10 @ 7:30

At Our Next ZOOM Meeting

Hear about the

50th Anniversary Grand Tour of Aotearoa / New Zealand

Best of the season to all.

At our January ZOOM meeting, we will have the pleasure of hearing from Rick and Pauline Thomas about their rally experience in New Zealand.

From March 16 to April 10 of this year, Rick and Pauline joined the Austin Healey Club of New Zealand to celebrating their club's 50 anniversary. The club's Grand Tour took them on a 2000 km rally, spanning both islands, with some of the most beautiful scenery in the world.

Join us to hear about their experience and share some photos and stories
See you there!





Delegates Report

BY BOB YULE

AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB OF AMERICA
NOVEMBER 10TH – 12TH 2023

The meeting opened with the roll call and delegates from 28 chapters were present in the room and 12 others were on Zoom.

The minutes from the previous meetings were approved and followed by the club reports. Clubs are reporting that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find restaurants that are willing to cater to meetings, so some have resorted to renting a hall or going to members houses and having a pot luck meal. Some chapters have as many as 30 meetings a year, which include organizational meetings, tech sessions and visits to places of interest. Many more chapters are now multi-marque clubs and this is creating problems, since the introduction of Club Express to handle membership renewals, with the local only members. Minnesota cancelled their speed events because the cost of insurance was too high. The Golden Gate chapter bought a barn find BN1, got it running and after finding that they were not allowed to auction or raffle the car, it was sold at a car show.

Some chapters reported that after a member had passed away, their spouse had chosen to keep the car and the club is maintaining it for them. Many clubs reported substantial bank accounts and they were reminded that they are non-profit organizations and should work towards divesting some of the funds.

Four clubs Gateway, St Johns, Bonneville and Low Country, failed to submit reports and were deemed inactive. The Bluewater club disbanded and their remaining members have become National members. Membership stands at about 2500, down about 200 from last year.

The leadership team reports included regalia now being available to order from the Lands End website, insurance going to a different carrier with savings of about \$12 thousand and gymkhana coverage now \$350 per day and the club finances coming in below budget.

It was decided to only publish the membership directory on line but to try and put it into a pdf format so it could be printed as needed. Privacy issues were a worry with this format and that was to be looked into by Mike Schneider. A budget of \$3000.00 was approved to facilitate this formatting.



Healey Marque came in under budget at a cost of about \$4.20 per issue and International members are being given the option of having a digital only magazine and a corresponding reduction in dues. A committee has been established to investigate offering a digital only magazine to the rest of the membership.

The DMH memorial fund currently has \$39,000 in funds and two scholarships were awarded again to McPherson Collage for restoration students. The church in Peranporth, where the Club donated the stained glass windows, is now falling into disrepair as the roof needs work.

Discussion is under way on what to do with the windows if the church is demolished.

Conclave 2021 was cancelled because of covid and rescheduled in May of 2023 in Crystal River FL. Attendance was 187 people and 103 cars and they turned a profit of \$7000.

Conclave 2024 will be held in Elkhart Lake WI Sept 15th – 20th The website 2024conclave.com is now live and registration is open and filling up fast. The weekend prior there is an event at the track called the Healey World Challenge and features the cars of Donald Healey, with racing and displays.

The Conclave VP Neil Anderson proposed that Conclave 2025 be held around Branson Missouri. A hotel has been investigated and several attractions were cited. Negotiations are under way to find a club or clubs to organize this.

The Golden Gate Club and the AH Association of S. California have proposed an International meet in 2027 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Healey at Lake Tahoe. They have spoken to a hotel, the Golden Nugget and asked for permission to pursue this event if no one else had anything planned.

A Sprite registry is being established and Howard Collins has agreed to chair it and to abide by the usual terms laid down by AHCA.

A new version of Future 50 is being organized and is aimed at people under 50 years old.



Changes and updates have been made to the Driving awards which will now be cumulative and awarded at 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10000 miles in a year and Jim Cox is now running this program.

Brad Swiggart and Eileen Wetzel were voted onto the nominating committee to fill vacancies and to bring the committee up to strength of three delegates and all the past presidents who wish to serve.

The slate of officers was voted in mostly unchanged except for Ray Donovan, VP of club support, who resigned for health reasons and has been replaced by Steve Bell.

Four clubs Ohio Valley, Miami Valley, Central Indiana and Bluegrass are combining to host one regional meet per year on a rotational basis. 2024 Springthing will be organized by Bluegrass the 3rd weekend in May in the Bloomington, Nashville, Columbus, corridor, final location will depend on hotel availability.

Information about all the programs and events is available on the AHCA website.

The Delegates meeting in 2024 will be held in Plainfield IN at the same location between Nov 16 and 17th.

Report submitted Nov 19th by Bob Yule,
Delegate AHCSO





AHCSO Regalia

BY PETER LORE

To our members:

The AHCSO is happy to announce partnering with KimPrint to provide custom regalia to our club members. Many of you may know Kim Chervalier as she has been a regular at British car events selling logoed apparel for many years. You can order items from her online catalogue or customize them as you like.

Orders can be place online at:

https://kingscross-ca.3dcartstores.com/AUSTIN-HEALEY_c_454.html



AH CREST



AH WINGS



AH SPRITE ARROW



AH COLLEGIATE



AH RETRO SCRIPT



AH SCRIPT



AH STACKED





Route 219 Pothole Follow-UP

BY: JAMES EDNEY

As mentioned in a previous post, on our return journey from the 2023 Healey Encounter in Hershey, our left front suspension broke and after we had it flat-bedded to Huntsville we were faced with the repair. We had seen the cracked housing when we jacked the car up and removed the wheel, so the repair required the front suspension to be taken apart and the chassis and components examined.

On the lift, and after removing most of the bits and pieces of the suspension, we concluded a number of things. It was clear that the car had suffered a significant prang at the left front corner in its earlier life (extra non-factory welds and bondo present); from previous front-end work, we knew the repair of that was not perfect (particularly the alignment which we had previously corrected); the original factory weld of the shock housing was questionable (little evidence of weld and rust present; and the car definitely hit a pothole on 219 that caused the housing to fracture. We also concluded that it was in a state that it could have cracked at any time. As a precaution we checked the housing on the right side, which passed inspection with no extra welds and all the factory welds looked solid.

We were able to connect a 10-ton compression tool (pull back ram) to a bolt through the upper trunnion with a pipe held under the chassis so that we could then draw the housing down to its correct position. The arm of the shock was held at full extension by using blocks under the arm so it was stationary and the housing was drawn downwards to its original position.

The housing came together remarkably well and evenly, only requiring minor fore and aft adjustment to get it into the correct position so that it could be welded.

The steering box had to be undone and pushed out of the way so that the front crack could be welded. The rear crack was much easier to weld as there were no obstructions in the way, and with the spring out of the way the inside of the housing could also be welded. After tacking the front and back into position, the cracks front and rear, outside and inside were then welded. When completed we believe the chassis is as strong and solid as original. The suspension was put back together, the camber was measured and found to be the same on each side, and with a slight adjustment to the toe-in and after a successful test drive I was able to take the car home.



Many thanks to MS for the use of his lift and his knowledge, advice and skill, and I can report the car drives beautifully and feels very safe. Of course, the big test will be next spring and whether I can persuade Rachel to drive the car.



Front Crack



Suspension Apart



THE RESONATOR Rear crack cleaned up



Final result



The View From the Navigator's Seat

BY: AMANDA YULE - EDITOR OF THE RESONATOR

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone made it through the holiday season, whether it was here in Southern Ontario with a rather green Christmas, somewhere warm where you wouldn't miss a white Christmas or somewhere in between! We hosted my family Christmas this year, which was different for us. But many good laughs were had, too much good food was eaten and memories were made, which is what the holidays should be about.

The 2024 Healey driving season is already filling up with many National events to choose from. Please check the events page if you're at all interested in attending these larger events. Rumors are that the the hotel for Conclave is filling up fast, so if you were thinking you'd like to attend, you had better register sooner rather than later. Many AHCSO members are making plans for an epic across North America trip to BC in May for Rendezvous and some are making plans for Southeast already too! It's never too early to plan ahead for these amazing events. They all offer an entirely different experience to regular club events.

For any members that are nervous about driving so far or don't think they have it in them to do this sort of drive, please take a chance and get your Healey ready to go! These cars are meant to be driven - your Healey will thank you and you'll have many happy memories to cherish. Make 2024 the year to try something new with your car...even if that means getting out to the club lunches and dinners. Let's see some new faces at our events!

Cheers for now - see on the Zoom!

Amanda

