

- A Christmas Party At The San Diego Automotive Museum
- Don Benke is this year's COTY Points award winner
- A reminder for Clubmembers...lt's dues time...
- And Happy New Year to all...

January 2018

From The Editor:



As a guest of the Triumph Club's Annual Wine Run, (better known as The Cork Inspection Tour.) I met a new friend, Garth Brown. Garth was checking out my Healey in the parking area of the Poppaea Vineyard. He mentioned

that while stationed in Florida in 1966, he had a Navy pilot friend named Curtis Blount, who had a British Racing Green Austin Healey the same year as mine.

Curtis Blount's '66BJ8 had a black top and interior as mine did when we purchased it in 1967. (The side vents, egg crate grille, Dayton wire wheels and bisque interior and top, etc, were added about 1990).



Garth Brown

Garth Brown and Curtis Blount reconnected a short time later, in late 1966, here in San Diego. Garth said that Curtis no longer had the Healey. And apparently the Healey's deposition never came up in conversation... Life intervened. Garth and Curtis lost track of each other. So what's the point of this and a disappearing Healey?

We purchased our Healey from Wescott Motors in National City, Calif. in February 1967. Wescott Motors was the local Healey dealership. I remember buying ignition points, and miscellaneous Healey parts, even a roll of black floor carpet material, rubber window trim as well as mufflers from Wescott. Original factory stuff, like mufflers and the manifold flex pipes had a relatively short life. (I believe they came pre-rusted from the factory.)

The '66 BJ8 cost us \$2100 and the '59 100-6 we already owned. The 100-6 had steel rims, no radio, crazed side curtains, and a leaky top, regardless what I did. And leather seats that spent too much time in the sun with no care. Not to mention the previous owner installed what was a too radical cam, which made tuning a nightmare. Continued on page 11.

January Meeting...

Wednesday, January 10th at the Mainstream Bar & Grill, 6:30pm 13385 Poway Road, Poway

HEALEY HEARSAY is the official monthly publication of the AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB OF SAN DIEGO. Monthly members' meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. The location varies, and is announced by email, in this newsletter, and on our web site, www.sdhealey.org.

tustun-Healey

Membership Information

Membership in the Austin Healey Club of San Diego is open to all owners of Austin Healey, Jensen Healey, or any other Healey vehicles, and to anyone else who is interested in the Healey margue. Annual dues for the Austin Healey Club of San Diego are \$30 per household. Visit our web site, www.sdhealey.org, or contact our Membership Coordinator, Vice President Rick Snover (ricksnover@earthlink.net) for details and

2017 AHCSD Board Members

President- Terry Cowan (619) 475-7937 terry@toyshop-resto.com VP, Membership- Don Benke 619-778-1680 dgbenke@cox.net Secretary- Rick Snover ricksnover@earthlink.net Treasurer- Gary Stalker 858-668-7154 ngstalker@sbcglobal.net Activities- Bob Farnsworth 760-787-5737 bobsues@sv-mail.com Lou Galper 619-297-0626 lgalper1@cox.net

Newsletter Editor-Warren Voth (619) 368-3895 vothstir@aol.com

Special Staff

COTY Recorder- Rick Snover ricksnover@earthlink.net Web Master- Rick Snover schealey admin@schealey.org Delegate, Austin Healey Club of America-Mike Williams (858) 496-0546 healeymike@earthlink.net Representative, San Diego British Car Club Council-Terry Cowan (619) 475-7937 terry@toyshop-resto.com Representative, Car Club Council of Greater San Diego Vacant

Advertising Information

Classified Ads (Market Place) are free to members. Classifieds for items wanted or small items for sale are free to nonmembers, too. Ads may be placed any time. Submit artwork and payment to the Treasurer. Annual display ad and monthly nonmember "Car For Sale" classified ad rates are as follows:

Full page 8"x 10.5"	\$ 100.00 per year
Half page 5"x 8"	\$ 75.00 per year
Quarter page	\$ 50.00 per year
Business card	\$ 30.00 per year

All advertising and articles for publication must be submitted to the editor no later than the 20th of each month for publication in the next month's issue. (vothstir@aol.com)

On The Cover: Three Healeys, oiling up the concrete at the the San Diego Automotive Museum

Visit our web site at http://www.sdhealey.org

Healey 2 Hearsay

President's January Message



President Terry...being presidential...



Hello Fellow Healey Peep's

Happy New Year...I am hoping 2018 is less stressful and more upbeat that 2017 !!

Also, 2018 should bring some changes and hopefully more participation we plan to introduce weekend / daytime meetings every other month so

I am hoping to hear input about where and when the club wants to do that !!



Mike Williams doing Redi-Whip shooters...

Event's have been spotty or lightly attended. I am hoping we will be able to fix that



this next year reviving some of our past event's and posting a calendar each month which shows our normal events for the year in advance, plus asking for members to host things they would like us to do, also I have been out checking meeting places for the new year !!

OK, I went out and about today checking on new and old meeting places. The Mainstream Bar & Grill in Poway is now back to its normal and is no longer hosting it's "Art Night" on our meeting night...I also stopped into Mimi's on Mira Mesa

and the 15 and they have a nice no charge room plus I picked up a menu for folks to look at as well !!

I am not completely clear on what the club wants to do for the weekend / daytime meeting ideas. Are we going to have the meeting as we normally do with an indoor spot like we do currently at new places or something at the beach and then a drive ??...or at some of our normal places for say brunch / lunch...I would like to lay out a 6 month or year plan if we can, so I can hunt down some fun spots !!!

Above center: Charles & Debby Sharp, Michael Dolphin, Kevin & Alejandra Schumacher, and Terry Banach & Lisa Wilhoite. Above: Lynne & Howard Stark, Mike Williams, Don & Patricia Benke, Carol Farnsworth,

and Nancy Arndt wait for Bob to quit being analytical and open his present.

— Healey **3** Hearsay

California Healey Week 2018



CALIFORNIA HEALEY WEEK 2018 Solvang, California October 17-21, 2018 • REGISTER NOW • PRINTABLE FLYER • PRINTABLE REGISTRATION FORMS Available: www.austin-healey.org

• Solvang...Get ready for great sports cars, food, wine tasting, friends and a beautiful location...California Healey Week 2018, hosted by the Austin Healey Association of Southern California, will be held in Solvang, California from Wednesday, October 17th to Sunday, October 21st, 2018. The event will be headquartered at the



Hotel Corque in downtown Solvang, see www.hotelcorque.com. Registrations are now open for the event. The historic Danish village of Solvang offers the best of the Santa Ynez Valley and Santa Barbara wine country in a relaxed and peaceful setting. Indulge in authentic Danish pastries at the world-famous bakeries. Stroll through the village and admire the old world European architecture, plus find the perfect souvenir at a variety of charming boutiques and shops.

• Ynez ValleyFall is typically beautiful in the Santa Ynez Valley.

• We plan to have some beautiful drives through back roads in the Valley, with the option of visiting several of the many vineyards for wine tasting. In addition to Solvang, we will visit Buellton, Los Olives and other locations in the valley.



We also plan a visit to the Mendenhall's Museum, which is one of the largest collections on the west coast of gasoline pumps, petroliana, road signs, license plates, race cars, racing history, miscellaneous antiques. You will be able to roam through their extensive displays of automobile antiques and collectables, with an extensive history of auto racing, especially the pursuit of the 200 MPH records at Bonneville.

You will have the option to visit the Vintage Motorcycle Museum in town. The collection is quite yone ranging from the very early to the present and across all makes including: AIS BMW

broad with something for everyone, ranging from the very early to the present, and across all makes, including: AJS, BMW, Ducati, Gilera, Matchless, Moto Guzzi, MV, Norton, Triumph, Velocette and Vincent.

• Rocker Cover Racing is always a highlight at California Healey Week. This event entails participants racing rocker (valve) covers, adapted with wheels and decorations, down an inclined track. Awards are given for fastest racer and "best presentation". This event is held during cocktail hour, to add levity! During CHW 2018, we will celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Austin Healey Sprite, including a special tribute to this iconic British sports car.

• The highlight of California Healey Week is the car show on Saturday, October 20th. We are negotiating to have this at a great central location in town. There, you will see some of the most beautiful Austin Healey sports cars around. The show is organized by Healey model, type and year with public voting for awards in 8 classes.



• Many more activities are currently in the planning stages. You can either register online at www. austin-healey.org or by downloading a manual form.

Hotel space is limited, so be sure to register soon to secure your place for this special Austin Healey event. Stay tuned to www. austin-healey.org for additional information and announcements.

Note: Once you register for the event, you will get a confirmation with instructions as to how to make your room reservations at the Hotel Corque at our reduced rate of \$129 on Wed. and Thurs. and \$209 on Fri. & Sat

Hi Everyone...As I talked about at the Holiday party, I thought of a fun way for members to write some articles both short or long as they wanted for the newsletter. A few years back the club purchased a camera that could be mounted on a Healey to take pictures/Video? as you drove. Kinda like a "go pro". At each of our monthly meetings or events, the camera could be given to a member that was willing to put it on their car and go for a drive, It didn't have to be a car event or anything planned. Just a drive in your car anywhere, where you saw something of interest, thought of a past event or story about a place you drove past. Maybe you talked to another car enthusiast, or had a thought about something to do with your car, other cars or people or current or past events while in your car. Anything really. I don't know about you, but I see things from a slightly different perspective when I am in the Healey, and I thought a picture is/could be worth an article. Maybe if you have someone with you, your passenger might like to write something from their view. Just some Healey musing about whatever tickles your fancy with an accompanying picture. A "Go Pro" moment/thought of the month if you will. The camera will be available at the January Meeting. Please see me Lynne Stark or call to get on the list for your turn with the camera.

DON'T FORGET...If your dues are still due , please get them to to Don Benke A.S.A.P. to keep your membership ac-

What's coming up in 2018...

• *July 15 - 20* French Lick IN Conclave 2018 Back Home Again in Indiana Hosted by the Central Indiana AHC

• *October 4 -7* Charleston SC Southeastern Classic XXII, Patriots Point, Hosted by the Carolinas Austin-Healey Club, SEClassic2018@gmail.com

Our annual Superbowl party & Chili cook-off is still in the planning process. And we're still looking for a host this week. Anyone that has space available for 25 people for Sunday afternoon, please call right away.

 Lou Galper
 Bob Farnsworth

 619-287-0626
 760-518-3960

HAWK WATCH 2018...So come and "stretch your eyes" and join us at Hawk Watch 2018 this January and February, every Saturday beginning at 10am. We encourage you to arrive about 9:30 to get you and your family and friends situated and grab coffee and a donut. As always, (for 27 years) it is FREE and great for all ages! Located at the Ramona Grasslands at the Begent Ranch, courtesy of Molly and David Begent, 18528 Highland Valley Road, Ramona, CA 92065. You can see a map and more details about Hawk Watch at our website: www.wildlife.research.org

We're All Members of the Activities Committee

- •Do you enjoy the club's events and drives?
- •Do you know of a great place that SDAHC Members might enjoy?
- •Do you want to share a favorite drive you've made in your Healey?
- •Do you have a favorite luncheon or dinner place that would make a good venue for a SDAHC gathering?
- Think about sponsoring one of our monthly events.
- Please contact me to find out what's involved or just to talk about it.

Lou Galper 619-287-0626 LGalper1@cox.net

It's Christmas once again...



Once again, Santa found the Club loitering in the mezzanine at the San Diego Automotive Museum, for holiday fare and a very congenial after dinner gift exchange, during delicious and sumptuous after dinner deserts.

And once again, Louie Matar's 1949 white Caddilac and trailer, billed as driving, nonstop, coast to coast, in the early 50's, greets us from the center of the museum floor. And it's eternally followed by a back-to-the-future Delorian.



Another great Christmas party. Barbara Humphries, the *"Brownie Queen"* enjoying the catered dinner. Nice to be able to chat with club members during a pleasant Holiday repast...



I missed my chance to low bid Terry Cowan's camera, left on the silent bid auction table. Should have bid on the Moss king pin set... Nancy Arndt enjoys her desert waiting for the gift exchange...



... At the Automotive Museum



The gift exchange was timed perfectly between the sleepy after dinner drowsiness and before the sugar high kicked in from the sweets. Several days before the party, I was having a gift delemma for the exchange. I saw an ad in a Dixieline flyer for SAE and METRIC combination/ratchet sets. The price was right and I was sure of not being duplicated. After all, who would expect wrenches as a gift exchange at a gear head gathering? I purchased a set for myself and they are super handy, indeed. And it was nice to see them sought over.

Lou Galper, top left, was the first to to gift exchange the whenches. Don Benke scored them from Lou... only to loose them to final winner, Lisa Wilhoite.



Don Benke is this year's winner of the Dana McPeek driving Award with 82 **COTY points.** Don also received a book commerating his big win! Congratulations Don, you're the man!

Lisa Wilhoite gets to change oil and plugs on their AH 100-6 MK1..



Nancy Stalker was the big hamberger head hat winner...

And, yet again, The Ramona High School Food Services Class, under the direction of Laurie Ivers, Sunny, and four culinary students, did a wonderful job. The ham and turkey dinner with all the trimmings is always the centerpiece for our party. Did I mention the deserts? The class supplied everything including the place settings, service and busing the tables. Laurie sent the following, A great, great job, Thanks Laurie...

Continued on Page 13





Above: Jan Schmidt heads for the gift exchange table to gether surprize. Behind her are santas helpers, Liza Mandell and Delia Williams. Bob & Carol Farnsworth are looking on.

Concours guy and general all around Healey maven, (*expert and connoisseur*) Curt Arndt, gives build information and car history to Kevin & Alejandra Schumacher on their 1955 BN1. In the background is the historic historic Balboa Park Starlight Bowl that played light opera like "My Fair Lady" on warm summer nights, in the fifties and sixties..

Healey 8 Hearsay

NOVEMBER 2017 UPDATE

Ye olde holidays approacheth, but it's never too early to make plans for fun in the sun next summer.

Let's review the basics:

The dates next year are September 16-21

meaning that just 10 short months from now it will all be happening.

The place is Madras, Oregon

a town of which you may have heard in connection with the recent solar eclipse.

The host hotel is the

Inn at Cross Keys Station

innatcrossleysstation.com

Our rate there is just \$117.99/night (all rooms, same price), and that's down \$2/night from some previous announcements (apparently they like us so much they reduced the rate without our even asking).

Don't say we didn't tell you:

Over 40 of the 72 rooms at the inn are already reserved. HIGHLY recommend that you make your room reservation NOW. Call (541) 475-5800 and mention Healey Rendezvous. Early arrivals Sunday, September 16 (recommended arrival day). Official first day with evening welcome reception, Monday the 17th. Wraps up Thursday evening, September 20, with awards dinner; (Friday, September 21 is a drive-home day that begins at the Inn). All rooms just \$117.99/night and light breakfast is included.

Registration #1 is taken

Congratulations to Lynn Martin, owner-operator of "<u>Forever Healeys</u>" in Post Falls, Idaho, who wan the auction at the last Rendezvous for the coveted Registration #1 in the 2018 Rendezvous. The list of benefits is impressive and a bargain at the \$650 paid. More on this later.

BONUS VIDEO

"Operation Speed" - 1956. Romeville Salt Flats. Utah

This is just to get you thinking about all the fun we'll have next September, and to encourage you to make that room reservation now. (Event registration will open after the holidays.)

"See" you next month with another monthly update.

Meantime, Happy Holidoys!





got a haircut yesterday. Now that I live in Soquel I had to find a new barber. The Hairy Chair looked like a good candidate since it was closest to my house. To my surprise Rudy is a gear head and directed me to a Saturday morning gathering of three car clubs just up the road in the Starbucks parking lot. Whooeee has been languishing in the garage for two weeks amid mountains of "stuff", so



it is time to get out and sample the roads around here. Saturday

morning here I come!

The bleek, breaking dawn heard the roar of her majesty's favorite sound as Whooeee backed out into the icy air. San Diego was never so cold. We arrived early and a few cars were scattered around the lot so we staked our claim on a central "compact" spot and settled in.

As in almost every show I have been

to, crowds roamed around and talked about displacement, horse-





it took to restore, etc. Next to us was a 1942 Ford that looked like a rust pile. My son started talking about flashy paint, flames, pinstriping and all sorts of tricking out until I told him the value of "as found". The owner had no thought of restoring the car. he'll leave it as is rust and all.

After wandering around a while and getting photos of me and my great grand daughter in Whooeee, we met Lee Tinder who was one of the founders of this event, some years ago. He edits a quarterly newsletter and wanted some photos of me and Whooeee for his newsletter. In fact, he said Whooeee is the first Bugeye to ever show up here. How about that, we're famous!!!



Healey 10 Hearsay

Support Our Advertisers...





Santa Maria, CA 93458 Phone/Fax (805) 349-1000 abritish@earthlink.net



Toy Shop Restorations

www.toyshop-resto.com (619) 477-2906 Show-quality (800) 798-6469 service of terry@toyshop-resto.com and Europ

Show-quality restoration & service of classic British and European sportscars

Sanford M. Leon

Certified Public Accountant

2811 Landscape Drive San Diego CA 92139

Telephone (619) 990-8728 Phone/Fax (619) 434-9886

Healey 11 Hearsay

Putzkę's "FAHRSPASS"

USA Phone: 858-486-3870 Cell Phone: 760 315 3592 E-mail:ah1103putzke@Gmail.com www.putzkes-fahrspass.com



BILSTEIN

The one and only

Shock absorber conversion Kit for:

Big Healeys \$ 949 / \$ 999 (BJ8 Ph2) Bugeye Sprite \$ 590

Jensen-Healey \$ 455 (2 front & 2 rear shocks)

Front and rear, with brackets and all hardware. Bolt-on, no frame modifications required.

Polyurethane bushings

For all Healeys, front lower and upper suspension, rear leaf spring eye, Sway-bar link. Individually available. Check our web page for prices.

Electronic Ignition for all 4- and 6-cylinder Healey's. \$109 for positive ground. \$96 for negative ground.

<u>NEW</u> Rear spring Anti twist shock kit for the AH 100-4 to BJ7

Car Bra, custom made for BN1 to BJ8 + Bugeye Sprite. Black \$255 Color \$305

Plastic Knock-off Hammer. \$75 No more dents or scratch on your Wing nuts.

For more details, prices and pictures, please visit: www.putzkes-fahrspass.com

Club discount on order of three or more shock kits.

Drive your HEALEY safer and with more confidence!

...continued from page 2.

At the time of purchase, we were told that the Healey had been driven from Florida to San Diego by a sailor. The story we got from the dealership was the Healey was owned by a sailor who could no longer afford it as he was being shipped out. Remember, Austin Healey's cost a fairly pricey \$3,565 in 1966. The sailor's mother consigned the car to Wescott Motors, where we purchased it in February 1967. Could we have purchased Curtis Blount's Healey a short time later? I think it could well be the same car.

Indeed, the Healey had Florida plates and I recall less than about 10,000 miles or so on the odometer. It looked like the new car it nearly was. The previous owner, (Curtis Blount?) was single, according to Garth, and might of had a dog that rode behind him as there were teeth marks in several spots on the fold down parcel shelf that locks in place, over the rear seats. And the blue owners manual still has the corner chewed off as only a bored canine passenger/companion would do.

I remember the front disc brakes being much better than the drum brakes on any American car. And it had a transistor AM radio that didn't have tubes to "warm up". And then there were the sporty 60-spoke wire wheels. We were "living large" in a very sharp car. The exhaust dual tail pipes rear resonators were already removed so it sounded like a Healey should.

So, what do you think? Could Curtis Blount be the original owner of my Healey? I would love to know... How many 1966 BRG Austin Healey BJ8's would be in San Diego, in 1967, with Florida plates?, and for sale?

SO, I am throwing this message in a wine bottle overboard. Will it be found by Curtis Blount, who would be about 74 now? Remember this was 50 years ago...

My hope is that someone reading this may remember Curtis Blount. Perhaps he is a relative of yours, a family acquaintence, who still drives a Healey. Is Curtis Blount one of your club members. If he is any of these, tell him I'm looking for him...

The hideden message is, *I would never have known this story* had *I not been out and about, enjoying my Healey (and wine).*

Happy New Year Curtis Blount, where ever you are ...

AUSTIN-HEALEY CLUB OF AMERICA

invites you to become one of our thousands of members and begin receiving the benefits of membership in the world's largest club for Austin-Healey enthusiasts:

- HEALEY MARQUE magazine, our award-winning, all-color, 40-page, monthly magazine.
- AHCA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY, listing members in all 50 states, across Canada, and even many overseas.
- AUSTIN-HEALEY CALENDAR, our colorful calendar with beautiful photography of these beautiful cars.
- 47 local chapters across the continent.
- Please visit our website where you can learn more and join online: www.healeyclub.org



Continued from Page 8

Laurie who was home sick, as many of us were and are, sent the following, "Hi Warren, This is Laurie Ivers from Ramona High School (Bob's daughter) here is a list of the students who were there for your holiday luncheon: Jessica Nelson (12), Skylar Casey (12), Connor Haynes (12), and Justin Bates (10). They are only four out of the 150 students that had a part in preparing your meal. We (Sunny Seol and I) teach the cooking classes at Romona High School Sunny is my assistant and right hand person. Jessica has been in my Culinary Arts class all 4 years. Connor and Skyler are second year students and this is Justin's first year in class. Jessica, Connor, and Justin will be competing in Skills USA at the end of this month in Culinary Arts and commercial baking."

I am as guilty as anyone, forgetting the many crafts and trades the keep America thriving and seem to get little notice amidst others who appear to be undoing the good works of fellow citizens. While the famous, and infamous seem to grab the trendy headlines, let us not forget the coming generation of Americans who have always been the backbone of this country, whether they be in the kitchen, on the blue line or in emergency rooms across this country.

It is good that the Club supports these efforts. And they should be recognized...



CAR OF THE YEAR (COTY) AWARD



To recognize Club members who participate with their Healeys, the Austin Healey Club of San Diego awards CAR OF THE YEAR (COTY) points for various activities. Opportunities to collect COTY points include any car-related events (shows, drives, rallies, etc.) sponsored by an official organization (other car clubs, auto museum, city chambers of commerce, charities, etc.) where you participate with your Healey. Events need not be listed in the Club's newsletter to earn points.

The participant is responsible for providing proof of participation (entrance fee receipt, photo, corroboration from other club members etc.) to the COTY Recorder, Rick Snover (619-980-4194 ricksnover@earthlink.net) within 30 days after the event. AHCSD events will have a sign-in sheet that will be forwarded to the recorder. For members with multiple eligible vehicles, be sure to indicate which one(s) you drove.

COTY points currently approved by the Board are: AHCSD Meetings & Tech Sessions 4pts; AHCSD Driving Events, Parties, etc. 6pts; AHCSD Healeys on the Green 8pts; California Healey Week, Healey Rendezvous and Austin Healey Conclave 16pts; S.D. British Car Day and Rolling B.C.D. 10pts; other multi-day British-themed events 8pts; other multi-day events 4pts; other one-day British-themed events 4pts; other one-day events 2pts. Other non-Healey British-built cars earn half points, but are not eligible to win the award.

All points received during the year by all members will be worth a discount towards the purchase of AHCSD regalia during the subsequent year. The total point leader at the end of the year will receive the coveted CAR OF THE YEAR badge for display on their Healey for the following year.

2018 CotY Standings

(as of December 20, 201

Member	Car	Pts
Benke, D & P	AH 3000 Mk III	6
Schumacher, K & A	AH 100	6
Stalker, G & N	AH 100	6
Stark, H & L	AH 3000	6
Voth, W	AH 300MkIII	6
Galper, L	Jaguar XJ6	3
Humphries, B & B	Jensen	3

moss THIS IS WHO WE ARE



David Williams R & D Shop Supervisor ASE Master Technician Moss employee since 2005

David Aidnik Chief Engineer Moss employee since 2013 Mike Vickers Product Quality Assurance Supervisor Moss employee since 1986

We take pride in being fussy. Take our Classic Gold brake shoes for example. Before being called Classic Gold, we improved the original stock design, then had them manufactured, inspected, trial fitted and tested on the road. Accept nothing less than the best. We don't.

