

HEALEY HIGH ROADS

The Newsletter of the Capital Area Austin-Healey Club
Volume Two—Number Five November, 2003

HHR's First Issue in New Format ***By: Michael Oritt, Editor***

In keeping with the Membership's decision to no longer publish paper copies of our newsletter, this is the first "Electronic-only" edition. As faithful readers will no doubt notice, its appearance is markedly different from recent issues, but please consider this a temporary format only:

(The following is an unpaid Political Announcement):
Ahem Ahem!! Assuming that I am elected to serve as Editor for 2004 I pledge to become more adept at "Electronic Publishing" and will attempt to give our club the first-rate newsletter that it deserves. Since the newsletter's size and content is no longer limited by the financial constraints of printing and

postage expenses, I fully intend to include "All the News that's fit to print". This will, I hope, include articles, photos, etc. submitted by our membership, along with regular reports from Club Officers and the like.

In this Premier edition of the "New" Newsletter I am including a few lengthy *verbatim* reports that previously could only be touched upon, and it is my desire that our membership will in the future become more informed as to what is happening within the club.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SET FOR JANUARY 10TH 2004 AT THE HOME OF JACK & PAM WHITE

If you haven't already marked your calendars to attend the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on January 10th at 6:30 PM, be sure to do so!

Though the AGM is more a social event than business meeting, this is the occasion when Officers and Directors for the coming year are elected and installed, and your attendance is certainly requested. However, it's also a great opportunity to enjoy fine food and good fellowship with other CAAHC members.

Once again Jack and Pam White have generously opened their lovely Fairfax home to the Club, and aside from the warmth of their fireplace you will no doubt enjoy seeing others' photos of past events, including our Conclave, so bring any shots, DVD's, video-tapes, etc. that you want to share.

Members whose last names begin with letters A-M are requested to

bring a dessert and those with letters N-Z a covered side dish. The Club will provide the main dish and beverages. A \$5.00 donation per person will help defray expenses. Please RSVP by January 3rd to Jack at: jwhite@medmarc.com or (703) 652-1312 and indicate the number in your party.

Jack will be mailing out post cards to all members within a few weeks and driving directions to his home will be clearly stated on it. If for some reason you do not receive yours by December 20th please contact Jack at the email address above and ask him for directions.

The AGM is always a festive and fun event. *Please be a part of it!*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Michael Oritt

2003 has certainly been a full and special year for our club. We put on a well-attended and financially successful Conclave that received nothing but rave reviews. Credit for this is due not only to the hard work and planning of co-chairmen Allen Feldman, Howard Gilson and Gary Palsgrove but to the efforts of the many members of CAAHC who pitched in and worked in various capacities.

After the bid to promote Conclave was made and accepted by AHCA there were times when it looked that we might have bitten off more than we could chew. Yes, there was a “core” of regular attendees at meetings and functions, but where were we going to get all those volunteers that seemed to be present at other Conclaves?

Drums were beaten, parties thrown, arms twisted and both praise and guilt—trips disbursed in equal measure. Prodding articles appeared in this Newsletter *ad nauseum*. But lo and behold, members who had not been in regular or recent attendance

suddenly showed up at meetings. People volunteered to work in various capacities, and with this input of energy Conclave acquired a life of its own.

I take credit for being little more than a cheerleader during the last twelve months—you guys were the team on the field--and it has been my pleasure to witness our Club's accomplishment. We are in a strong position as a result of our hard work—we have a substantial treasury and more members are involved and attending meetings and events. New faces have joined “the core” and some heads are not covered in gray hair!

I both invite and challenge the membership to become active in our Club's future leadership. *Please consider standing for office in the upcoming elections*—I guarantee that you'll enhance the pleasure derived from your Healey by enjoying great fellowship with a wonderful bunch of folks with whom you already share so much.

Push the “start” button—please let me know on what level you want to become involved with YOUR CLUB for 2004. I guarantee you a fun ride!

Thanks--Michael

FALL DELEGATES' MEETING REPORT

By: Herman Farrer

Over the weekend of November 8-9, I attended the AHCA's Board of Delegates meeting in Atlanta, GA. The board meets twice yearly, once in the summer at Conclave and again in November. The fall gathering is the larger of the two, with 12 hours of scheduled meeting time. At these meetings the delegates discuss and vote on a number of issues including bylaw changes, elect officers, and make changes to racing competition rules. We also hear reports from various committees as well as a summary from each delegate on the state of each club.

I will distribute detailed notes of this year's meeting separately, but will cover some of the highlights here.

The overall state of the AHCA is good. The AHCA currently comprises of 46 area clubs, some of which are inactive. There are 3621 members including 26 international, 8 complimentary, 13 honorary, and 21 lifetime members. As of October 30, 2003, the Club's cash on hand was \$52,222.58. AHCA treasurer Bev Sealand proposed a budget for 2004 calling for revenues of \$178,100 and disbursements of \$163,600. There had been some discussion about a dues increase, but after further consideration and some creative money management, there will not be an increase. The last dues increase was in 1999. We were able to forestall the increase by a combination of belt tightening and a reduction in postage and telephone costs

through the increased use of the email for communications. Other areas where money had been previously earmarked, such as promotion of the Golden Anniversary, no longer need large budgets.

Each officer made a report to the delegates. Included in the report of Conclave Vice President Roger Hamel was a presentation by me on Conclave 2003. I spoke to the delegates for about 10 to 15 minutes about our Conclave experience. I began by thanking everyone in the room who attended. I also expressed our gratitude to the AHCA officers who helped us with Conclave preparations, and made a special acknowledgment to the Northeast Ohio AHC for managing the Popular Car Show.

I highlighted what I thought were the best events, which was hard, as they were all good! Our financial report, which showed a profit of over \$7,000.00, pleased everyone.

Other points I touched on included our MADD donation, problems with the current credit card system, and the need for a comprehensive Conclave manual. I also told them that while having three chairmen reduced the overall workload on each person, it presented its own set of problems.

I am extremely proud to report that throughout weekend, I was approached by people telling me how much they enjoyed their Conclave experience. It warmed my heart to hear people say things like, "We left the Healey at the hotel and took the kids (or grandkids) to the Smithsonian for the day." The AHCA officers and delegates have

discussed that Conclave needs to be a family event and we made it happen! We should all feel very good about performance. It was first rate.

Conclave locations have been set through 2007 and the Smoky Mountain club has expressed interest in hosting the event in 2008. The schedule is as follows:

- 2004 San Antonio, TX
- 2005 Winston-Salem, NC
- 2006 Akron, OH
- 2007 New England

One topic that continues to generate a lot of discussion is the AHCA's need to involve the next generation of Healey owners. The AHCA created a group, the Future 50 (<http://www.future50.net/>), to address this issue. As the name implies, its core group will carry the Healey standard for the next 50 years. They are our children, grandchildren, and our neighbors' children and grandchildren.

To encourage participation in this group, the bylaws were amended to create a new Associate member classification. For \$25.00/year, people aged 25 and under can receive Healey Marque and participate in all AHCA activities. The only restriction is that an Associate member cannot be a delegate.

Some area clubs have also started programs to involve younger people in the community. I believe that this is something we should do as well.

The meeting concluded with the election of next year's officers. All of the current officers with the exception of Ann Jones were reelected. Ann chose not to run again and Edie Lowery of the Gulf Coast Austin-Healey Club was elected as recording secretary. Edie's experience

and dedication make her an excellent addition to the AHCA governing body.

Also of note: Healey Marque editor Glenn Hudson reported an increase in both the quality and quantity of submitted articles and photographs. He aims to have the magazine arrive by the first of the month. Glenn also expects the 2004 calendar to be ready before the end of the year. Mike Schneider told us that the Guest Fund, which is used to help defray the costs of bringing special guests to Conclave, stands at \$9,500. It was started by John Hunt, a California member, with his own money, but is now controlled by the AHCA. Rich Chrysler reported that eight cars were judged at Conclave 2003. Six received medals; three gold, two silver, and one bronze medal were awarded. A number of new judges, including the CAAHC's Michael Oritt, have been added to the Concours roster. John Seaman is transferring videos of past Conclaves and other important events onto DVD. Finally, this will be my last year as your AHCA delegate. I thank all of you for permitting me to represent the Capital Area AHC. During the seven years I attended the delegates meetings, I tried to raise the profile of our club. I believe that I achieved some success through my attendance at the meetings (many clubs don't send a delegate), by our hosting of the 2001 delegates meeting, and culminating in Conclave 2003. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the total support of my fellow officers and our dedicated members. I look forward to continuing to serve as the club's Webmaster and hope to contribute in other ways as well.

Hasta m'Healey—Herman Farrer

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

By: Don Margeson, Secretary

CAPITAL AREA AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB

Sunday, November 16, 2003 Meeting
Squire Rockwell's Restaurant
Fairfax, Virginia
5:00 – 7:30 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Mike & Mary Oritt, President and Newsletter Editor; Frank Pirhalla, Treasurer and Membership; Herman Farrer, National Delegate; Anil & Shanthi Fatterpaker, Regalia; Ralf Berthiez, member; Melody Cook, member; Jeff and Sue Ade, member; Charley and Marlene Darley, member; Paul & Nancy Landis, member; Jack and Pam White, member; Eric Parlet and guest Kathy Bliss, member; Joe & Peg Maio, member; Sara Rosenfeld, member; and Don & Kathi Margeson, Club Secretary.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

GENERAL

1. The minutes from the October and September club meetings at Squire Rockwell's were discussed and accepted as minted.
2. Frank Pirhalla provided an overview of the clubs financial status after Conclave. As of November 16th the books have \$10,662.06. This includes a booked profit of \$3,174 from

Conclave (after share to National) plus all proceeds from Regalia of \$2,326 for a total profit of \$5,500.

3. Membership is 157 paid members. We have 23 additional names of unpaid former members. Frank further advised that notice to AHCCA members for annual dues for 2004 should be arriving in the mail soon. The annual membership fee is \$50 with \$40 going to National and \$10 to our club.

OLD BUSINESS

1. General Membership Meeting - It was confirmed the annual General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Saturday evening, January 10, 2004 at Jack and Pam White's home. A mailing to the membership reminding of the event will be sent out mid-December. Members with last names beginning A-M are to bring a dessert, N-Z are to bring a main dish to share in the evening buffet. The club will provide beverages. There is a nominal \$5 per person charge collected that evening to subsidize the cost of the party. General election of officers will be the focus of the official part of the meeting. Otherwise it is a "good time" social event for all. President Mike urged members to step forward and provide time and energy to fill office/ board member chairs. The work is not hard and the rewards are plentiful.
2. Bylaws – The membership at the meeting voted to accept the by-

laws as prepared and discussed at the September and October meeting and per comments received for the club membership. The acceptance vote was unanimous. The membership expressed its profound thanks to Fred McConville for his diligence, patience and hard work in the preparation of the new by-laws.

3. Tax-Status – President Mike informed that after discussions with tax counsel and other clubs that had hosted Conclaves the club is required to file an IRS tax return due to the revenues from Conclave being in excess of \$25,000. Treasurer Frank Pirhalla has the action to obtain and file IRS Form 990EZ. Our club has tax-exempt status and we could lose or be subject to a fine if we fail to file a tax return. Don Margeson will seek advise as to whether there is any requirement to file a State return for either Virginia (location of Conclave) or Maryland (where our club is registered).
4. Attendance Point System - President Mike indicated that the idea for a point system for attendance, participation in club events, displaying club insignia, or representing the club in non-club activities to expose the Healey marque is successfully being use by the Triumph Club. We will make this idea an agenda item at a future meeting. The idea is to provide incentive for club members to be involved in club activity and to be rewarded

each year for those that maximize the ideals of the club.

NEW BUSINESS

1. AHCCA National Convention – Herman Farrer gave an overview of the highlights of the recent National convention held in Atlanta, Georgia. Herman said there were many compliments from conventioners to the excellent planning and the good time they had at Conclave 2003 hosted by our club. Herman has posted his notes of the convention via email to the club Yahoo address.
2. Capital Classic 2004 - A chairman and committee is being sought to take the lead in planning this event for next year. Ideas for consideration is to make it a driving event with an overnight at a nice resort in Maryland or Virginia, a trip thru Amish country in Pennsylvania, attendance to the Vintage Classic event in Pittsburgh in July, or a drive on the Maryland Eastern Shore. Planning will begin for this event with the new officers in 2004.
3. Other Topics– Items discussed are:
 - “Ace” Rosner a known Washington, DC vintage car collector has invited our club to visit his fine collection of cars at his home address after the first of the year. Ace is planning to sell off his collection so we want to

arrange the visit before it is sold off.

- The Scottish Walk will likely be the last event for our cars in 2003. It is to be held in Old Town Alexandria on December 6th.
- Mike and Mary Oritt told of their recent experience for their cars in the Leonardtown, MD Veterans Day parade. Kings and Queens of the high school and local dignitaries road in their cars for the parade and it was great exposure of the marque to participants and public viewers of the parade. Our club members are encouraged to enter their cars in such events to increase exposure of our cars to the public.
- Howard Gilson has advised there are surplus Conclave pens and patches available for purchase. Contact him for a bargain.
- President Mike is always looking for articles for the Healey High Roads club newsletter. It enhances the newsletter and provides a great venue to share technical or fun stories of our car experiences. Send to Mike early each month.
- It was agreed by acclamation to continue meetings for the general membership each month.

There may be special meetings called separately by the Board.

The next meeting will be 5:00 pm at Guapo's Restaurant in Bethesda, MD on Sunday, February 15, 2003. There is no scheduled meeting for the membership scheduled for December or January. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

<p>TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER, 2003 By Frank Pirhalla</p>
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As of 11/16 we had \$10,662.06 arrived at as follows:

\$5297.00 was our balance without Conclave monies;

Conclave Monies:

\$3174.00 Operating profit (we sent National \$3174.00 as by agreement we split profit.

\$2326.00 Regalia profit (of which we keep 100%)

Total Conclave monies: \$5500.00

Grand Total: \$10,662

Editor's Note—At the November meeting Frank reported that he has put a deposit on a new Ferrari.....

Stolen Off of the Internet....

By Scott Helms, *Curator*

British Car Week

(http://users.arczip.com/zn_tech/britishcarweek.html)

Once upon a time, there were two young men who were very much alike. One was named Ernie and the other named Hugo. Even though they were a lot alike, they had never met one another. They lived in separate towns in different parts of the Country, but they did share a lot of common ground. Like many people, they both liked tinkering in the garage, spending quality time outdoors on a beautiful day, sightseeing while traveling, and enjoyed doing exciting things with their friends and loved one's. But unfortunately, there was something missing in each of their lives. You see, they had slipped into the deep, dark doldrums of life, and had become boring. As a result, they were spending a lot of their spare time on the living room sofa flipping television channels and watching others having a good time. This seemed to be their way of coping.

One afternoon while Ernie was driving home from work in his daily run-of-the-mill family car, he began to think about what he might do once he got home. He thought and he thought, but he became saddened when he realized that he couldn't think of anything. So he decided that he'd settle for eating an early supper, then watch television until he couldn't stand it any longer, and then go to bed. The next day he'd do the same all over again.

While keeping his focus on the road ahead he spotted an eye-catching little sports car heading toward him. He could see the driver of the car was wearing a baseball style cap turned backwards, and he appeared as though he was having a great time driving his fun little car. He took a

closer look at the car, and realized it was a little British car that he hadn't seen on the road in many years. "Wow" he thought to himself, "That guy looks as though he's having the time of his life. What a wonderful way to spend a beautiful afternoon unwinding after a hard days work. I could sure have a lot of fun with a car like that!!" Ernie waved to the driver of the car, then gave him the thumbs-up sign, and the driver waved back with a big smile.

Ernie was right, the expression on the guys' face was unmistakable. He was surely having the best time of his life. As a matter of fact, it was something he did on a regular basis because he knew the best time of his life was now. Driving his British car every day was essential. During that entire week, Ernie spotted more and more little British cars driving around his town that he hadn't seen in many years. Some of the cars he had almost totally forgotten about. He later discovered why they seemed to be suddenly making a comeback in his town. The entire week was a special honorary week for all classic British cars. It was called British Car Week. He learned that British Car Week is an annual awareness week intended to encourage British car owners to drive their cars regularly and provide them with increased exposure for the people in their community to appreciate. It's a week for enjoying them, but also for remembering the pleasures they have brought to the many lives over the years, especially those who have been fortunate to become familiar with them during the past and present.

By now Ernie was getting very curious, and decided that he'd like to become more familiar with them. He wanted to know all sorts of things like, "Where can I buy one? How can I find a good one? Are parts available? If so, then where do I buy them? Are there local clubs that provide helpful support? Do they still publish books and magazines about these cars? Where do I begin!?"

Fortunately Ernie was able to talk to some of the car owners during the week, and within a few months he had joined several British car clubs. As a result, he met some great new friends, located books to read, and subscribed to magazines that enabled him to learn as much about British cars as he needed. He located a car that he found for sale in a club magazine, and is now the proud owner. He also bought another car that needed to be restored, and is now buying parts for it. There was no longer any doubt what he would find to do after work, and in many cases he didn't return home immediately after work. Instead, he was taking the long way home because he was driving his enjoyable little British car.....

Be sure to mark your calendars and tell all of your friends and British car club officials about the 8th Annual British Car Week! May 22 - 30, 2004

Oh, I almost forgot! You're probably wondering whatever happened to Hugo? Well, he's at home sitting on the sofa watching television. Unfortunately his British car clubs didn't celebrate British Car Week.

See you on the road.....Scott Helms, Curator

The Capital Area Austin-Healey Club is the Virginia/Maryland/DC area club of the Austin-Healey Club of America.

Visit our website at:

www.capitalhealeys.org

Officers and Directors for 2003:

President/Newsletter Editor: Michael Oritt,
awgertoo@aol.com (410)586-9521

Vice-President: Howard Gilson,
hgilson3@comcast.net (301) 493-9652

Secretary: Don Margeson,
dmargeson@bechtel.com (540)338-3568

Treasurer/Membership: Frank Pirhalla,
pirgre@erols.com (703) 524-8431

Delegate/Webmaster: Herman Farrer,
herman@capitalhealeys.org (301) 588-1266

Regalia: Anil and Shanthi Fatterpacker,
Anil591943@aol.com (410) 465-1823

Activities Chairperson: Bill Eggert,
coppifan@aol.com (410) 956-9153

Board Members:

Dean Turner, dht@erols.com (540) 347-2091

Kathi Margeson, koko@earthlink.com
(540) 338-3568

Fred McConville, mcconville@HughesHubbard.com (703) 830-6136