

## **2009 Fall AHCA Delegates Meeting Report**

The 2009 AHCA Fall Delegates meeting occurred during the weekend of November 7-8 in Charlotte, NC. The meeting opened with a welcome and overview of the agenda by President Carl Brown. The minutes of the June meeting were approved and we proceeded with the Chapter reports.

I found the chapter reports to be one of the most interesting and useful components of the meeting. Each delegate takes a few minutes present a “state of their club” report where they highlighted activities, discussed membership trends, presented their observations on the overall health of their club. With a few exceptions, membership is down for all clubs. The Three Rivers AHC (Pittsburg) went from 37 members in 2007 to none in 2009, the Flatwater AHC (Nebraska) dropped 50% over this period and several others lost over 30% of their members. A few clubs posted small gains, some of which were simply people who moved from one club to another. The Capital Area AHC lost 22 members from 2007-2009. Our membership now stands at about 135.

Many of the chapters participate in charity events as a way of promoting the marque and giving back to the community. Examples include donations to healthcare research, libraries, and the Make-a-Wish Foundation. I believe that charitable fundraising is an activity that the Capital Area Club should undertake.

One of the clubs participates in a “Coffee and Cars” monthly meet-up with other British marques at a dinner. As a matter of fact, many of the clubs engage in activities with other British car clubs. A few of the clubs even have a significant number of members who own cars other than Healeys. This is due, in part, to the fact that there aren’t enough Healey owners to sustain an independent Healey club. While I know that there has been some discussion over the years about engaging other British clubs, I think that we should further pursue the idea. I suspect that it would be pretty easy to do with a couple of phone calls and emails.

Not surprisingly holiday parties were among the most popular social events. Many clubs participated in driving tours, and some, the annual ice cream social. Most clubs either hosted or attended cars shows, while others preferred competitive events like gymkhanas.

## **Officer Reports**

Jim Frakes, VP Conclave, reported this year's Conclave in Kingston, ON was a success. There were 222 registrations and the club will make a profit, even though the economy was weak and some potential sponsors did not step forward. The ladies tea, the track events, and the boat cruise were some of the best-attended activities. Many attendees appreciated the on-site repair facilities.

Next year's Conclave is scheduled for July 11-16 at the Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in Galina, IL. Galina is 165 miles northwest of Chicago near the Mississippi River. Highlights of the 2010 event include a popularity car show on historic Main Street in Galina, a dinner & dance cruise on the Mississippi, and a gymkhana. Healey Werks will provide on-site repair services.

## **Club Support**

Gary Brierton told the delegates that the AHCA is looking into way to revive failing and failed clubs.

## **Safety & Classification**

Don Klein reported that an attempt will be made to let women participants drive through the gymkhana course at a low speed prior to the event. The opportunity may also be extended to men as well. Classifications will remain the same and will be posted on the AHCA web site. People who have comments or recommendations on classifications should send them to Don.

## **Promotion**

Greg Lauser told the delegates of the AHCA's efforts to promote this year's Healey runs at the Bonneville Salt Flats. The club is also planning on producing an AHCA 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary windscreen decal for distribution to its members. Local chapters are being encouraged to find ways to celebrate the anniversary.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Bev Sealand reported that despite the recession, the club's treasury remains healthy. There will not be a dues increase in 2010. As of November 1, 2009, there was a cash balance of \$69,923.86. Total revenues were \$122,672.27 and total disbursements \$132,004.21. Not reflected in the figures is about \$15,000 in outstanding advertising revenue expected to be collected before the end of the year.

## **Reports**

### **Healey Marque**

Reid Trummel reported that 2009 expenses should be about \$5,300 below the projected budget. Expenses should be about the same next year and the magazine is now full-color.

### **Advertising**

Bob Gilleland told the delegates that *Healey Marque* lost a couple of advertisers, but picked up a couple, too. He also informed the delegates that there has been some discussion on whether to accept advertising for regional AHCA events. He also said that the Marque might also accept a one-time, full page ad for AHSTC's Encounter meet next August.

### **Membership**

Membership chairman, Mike Schneider, will now be sending membership dues rebates to the clubs twice in January and February and then quarterly for the remainder of the year. Mike reported that this year's membership directory was delayed by the printer and he is working to make sure that they are delivered earlier next year. The cut-off to be included in the directory is mid-March. Anniversary plates, sent to recognize 5, 10, 15, 20, etc. years of membership, will start coming out again next year.

### **President**

Edie Anderson is cataloging the items that the delegates have been approved over the years.

### **Insurance**

Premium will remain the same for 2010. A certificate of insurance is available upon request. It is only issued when required for particular event.

### **Delegate-at-large**

Steve Byers said that there are 550 members-at-large. He is working to create an email distribution list to keep members informed. 350 are on email list.

## **Future 50**

Ben Moore is requesting clubs to do outreach to promote Healeys to the next generation of buyers and club members. Schools, libraries, and all-marque shows are all places for outreach. Social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Youtube may be the best way to reach a younger demographic. Ben is working on member profiles of 18-40 year-olds. He is also want to promote membership to legacy owners. Ben also thinks that a network of AHCA members to help with car acquisition would benefit younger buyers.

## **Registries**

In 2003, John May started working with other registrars to protect/preserve the data. In 2006 the delegates voted to required registrars to present a yearly copy of their database to the AHCA. John proposed to have two categories of registrars. The first type of registrar is an AHCA member and sends a yearly copy of registrations to the AHCA. The second category of registrars is for those who are not part of AHCA, but AHCA acknowledges their existence. Car number security is required by AHCA policy (still to be determined). Some members are concerned with protecting data. A motion approving the above was made, seconded and passed.

## **DMH Memorial Fund**

The fund currently has \$11,688.86. The DHM Fund was established in 1991 to remember Donald Healey via a stained glass window at St. Michael's church and the maintenance of a memorial walk, both in Perranporth, England. The fund also provides an annual scholarship of about \$500.00 for two local students.

## **Bonneville Speed Run**

Dave Maxwell gave a brief report on Healey's return to Bonneville. For a full report and photos, visit <http://www.bonnevillehealeyclub.org/id3.html>.

## **Web site**

The volunteer AHCA Webmaster doesn't have enough volunteer time to put into the site and the Club may have to hire him or someone else to manage it.

## **Conclave 2012**

Ben Moore of the Bluegrass AHC presented their proposal to host Conclave in Louisville in 2012. He said that 75% of members live within 1 day's drive of Louisville. The room rate at the Crown Plaza Louisville would be about \$120/night. Ben is an energetic 25 year-old, who will place emphasis on getting future 50 members to help. The date of the Conclave would be June 17-21, 2012.

## **Break Out Sessions**

### **Conclave 2011**

John May reported that no club has volunteered to host Conclave 2010 so the AHCA officers proposed to the delegates that the AHCA act as host. Various venues in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Colorado were considered. It was decided that Colorado Springs would be the best venue for the event. There was much discussion as to whether the AHCA should host the event or whether it would be best not to hold a Conclave in 2011. Concern centered around two areas. The first was whether there would be enough personnel at Conclave to carry out all of the tasks associated with running a Conclave without significant support from a local club. The second area of concern was whether in future years the local clubs would expect the national club to host Conclave. By a vote of 19-9 the delegates approved Conclave 2011 managed by the AHCA. It is expected that various AHCA clubs will step up and run particular events such as the car show, gymkhana, and rallies.

The venue under consideration is the Crowne Plaza where room rates will be \$119-\$135 depending on the breakfast option chosen. Tentative events include a chuck wagon dinner at the Flying W Ranch, a gymkhana at Pike's Peak International Raceway (with other driving activities available through the track), and a ladies tea.

The probable dates are July 3-8, 2011.

### **Club Revitalization**

It appears that members can be divided into three groups

- Those who pay dues and want to be left alone,
- Those who pay dues and participate minimally,
- Members who are the core of their clubs, run the organization and participate in most of the activities.

It was agreed that clubs need a newsletter and that some clubs still send paper copies in the mail. Important to have event write-ups with photos of members.

### **Web Site**

The participants of the Web Site breakout group made the following recommendations:

- Local club officers need to know how to access management portion of AHCA site.
- Update the look of the site including changing the black background
- New pictures
- New charity photos
- Let members enter updated personal membership information
- Tech articles on members only page

## **New Business**

### **Conclave Bids**

- Vote to approval AHCA hosting Conclave in CO. Springs passed 19-9
- Vote to approve Conclave in Louisville 2012 passed unanimously passed

### **AHCA Anniversaries**

Greg Lauser requested that 2011 be designated as 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AHCA. AHCA was incorporated in 1976 as Midwest region, but club started in 1961. 2011 will be the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the national club. Both the 50<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> anniversaries will be celebrated next year.

### **International Meets**

Steve Bell inquired about the status of International Meets in the US/Canada. John May said delegates previously voted not to hold anymore international meets that aren't Conclaves. Conclaves are no longer sponsored with another national club.

## **2010 Delegates Meeting**

2010 Delegates meetings in Atlanta November 12-14

### **Budget**

The 2010 budget calls for \$161,750 in revenue and \$177,472 in disbursements.

To save money the Spring Board meeting will be held in Colorado Springs as the officers will have to travel there anyway to plan Conclave 2011.

Keeping dues the same since 1999.

Budget approved unanimously

### **Nominations**

*Honorary 1 year Memberships for their work on **Healeys Return to Bonneville***

Lawrie & Diane Wilford and Bob & Lavina Yule for Conclave 2009  
Dave Maxwell, Steve Pike (Australia), and Bruno Verstraete (Switzerland)

*Special Bonneville Recognition*

Charles Matthews, Gordon ?, Joe Jarick, Marco Trevisan

*Lifetime Memberships*

Carl Brown, AHCA Past President

### **Nomination of Officers**

New Officers-Gary Feldman, Club Support and Gary Brierton, President. All other officers remain the same and in the same positions.

Bob Yule was elected as delegate member to the nominations committee

Respectfully submitted,

Herman Farrer

Capital Area Delegate