



# The *Northeast News*

*The newsletter for the New England region members of the Austin Healey Club of America*

<http://ahcane.tripod.com/default.htm>

MARCH, 2005

## Events & Info

### New Editor for New England Newsletter

It is with some sadness that I announce to the club that Deb Katz, who has been the editor of The Northeast Newsletter for the past three years, has decided to step down from this position after this current edition. I would like to thank Deb for her diligent efforts in making the design and format of our Newsletter in to such a professionally appearing publication. Few of us know the amount of personal time that it takes to put out a monthly newsletter, with its deadlines an such, but Deb has done a first rate job of it.

She will be a hard act to follow, but we believe we have found a new editor who will continue to uphold the standards that Deb has established. His name is Peter Williams, and he will be in charge of the next issue, so please feel free to submit any material you might want included in the Newsletter to Pete at [rafewilliams@comcast.net](mailto:rafewilliams@comcast.net).

Deb will continue to maintain and update the Web site and will work to convert it to a new look and feel for the club. She welcomes any suggestions from club members. So please email her at [dkatz@opensolutions.com](mailto:dkatz@opensolutions.com).

Frank P. Motta  
President

### President's column

Hi Everyone

Well it is March already, and Healey weather can't be far behind. I know all of you must be as anxious as I am to get back into your Healey and hit the open road. Every year when I start her up for the first time and hear the splendid crackling notes of that exhaust, it's like music to my ears. The first Healey ride of the season always brings to mind those wonderful memories of pleasant sunlit days and warm summer nights spent speeding along winding roads in the open air. Going for your first Healey ride of the season is like a rebirth; a rite of spring that reawakens your spirit and lifts your soul.

All of these wonderful feelings of rejuvenation will come drifting back to you the second you hear the roar of that Healey engine. But what kind of feeling do you think you will have if your engine doesn't roar, and maybe doesn't even sputter. There you are all ready for your first cruise with the bonnet open and your sleeves rolled up. You're scratching your head and trying to be mindful not to get grease on your good shirt. This is not a pleasant thought. You had a nice ride planned, and OH GOD! others are waiting for you in the parking lot of the local mall.

Such an experience may well have happened to any number of us in the past, and it usually turns an expected day of pleasure into one of disappointment and grief.

As some of us well know, storing your car in the cold, damp environment of an unheated garage tends to accelerate its deterioration and wear. In such an in-operative hibernation

there are a myriad potential problems lurking in the shadows. They are there ready to attack you when the long awaited day arrives for the beginning of your own personal Healey season. There can be nothing quite as distressing as not being able to take your first ride as planned.

On that first day you may find that you can't even get your car to start. It may be that your battery is dead, or that your distributor cap is cracked. There may even be a problem with some other part of your ignition system. If you manage to get the engine to turn over, but not achieve ignition, you may later find out that you kicked up sediment from your

*continued on page 2*

### Conclave 2007

**BURLINGTON, VT NEEDS YOUR HELP**

**April 16, 2005 • 11 a.m. • Sturbridge, MA**

If you're interested in working on one or more committees of the greatest conclave ever, please attend a meeting Sat., April 16, 2005, at 11 a.m. at Hyland Orchard and Brewery in Sturbridge MA. Lunch and beverages will be served. We have many committees you can serve on including, but not limited to, Finance, Art/Logo, Advertising, Registration, Hotel, Vendor, Awards, Arts/Crafts, Car Show, Entertainment, Raffle, Auction, etc.

Please RSVP to Betty Bender at 413-684-3934 or [rbender1@berkshire.rr.com](mailto:rbender1@berkshire.rr.com) or Janet Kastberg 413-245-4318 or [jenhly74@aol.com](mailto:jenhly74@aol.com)

If you can't attend and would like to volunteer, please share your ideas with us! This is a huge event and we can use everyone's help!

A publication for members  
of the AHCA - Northeast Region

## Club Contacts

### President

Frank Motta • 508-636-8636  
[fmott@surfglobal.net](mailto:fmott@surfglobal.net)

### Secretary

Anne Motta • 508-636-8636  
[fmott@surfglobal.net](mailto:fmott@surfglobal.net)

### Treasurer & Membership

Keith Risk • 508-943-1841  
[klrisk@charter.net](mailto:klrisk@charter.net)

### Newsletter Editor & Web site

Deb Katz • 860-436-9473  
[dkatz@opensolutions.com](mailto:dkatz@opensolutions.com)

### Regalia

Janet Kastberg • 413-245-4618  
[Jenhly74@aol.com](mailto:Jenhly74@aol.com)

### Delegate

Bob Bender • 413-684-3934  
[rbender1@berkshire.rr.com](mailto:rbender1@berkshire.rr.com)

### Area Coordinators

#### Eastern CT

Jim Smith • 860-267-4325  
[jsmith6@snet.net](mailto:jsmith6@snet.net)  
Dave Barton • 860-658-7147  
[dbartonCT@aol.com](mailto:dbartonCT@aol.com)

#### Western CT

Bob/Judith Finucane • 203-426-3770  
[Rfinucane@aol.com](mailto:Rfinucane@aol.com)

#### Western NH/VT

Bill/Debbie Berg • 802-442-2777  
[bill.berg@vtcomposites.com](mailto:bill.berg@vtcomposites.com)

#### Eastern NH

Bob/Jill Abbott • 603-433-9544  
[healeybj7@aol.com](mailto:healeybj7@aol.com)

#### Western MA

Bob/Betty Bender • 413-684-3934  
[rbender1@berkshire.rr.com](mailto:rbender1@berkshire.rr.com)

#### Eastern MA/RI

Steve Bell  
[scbell@mail.Rockland.mec](mailto:scbell@mail.Rockland.mec)

#### Maine

James Lea • 207236-3632  
[clocks@midcoast.com](mailto:clocks@midcoast.com)

#### New York

Rob Rice • 845-724-3747  
[uncleben0122@yahoo.com](mailto:uncleben0122@yahoo.com)

*President's Column, con't. from page 1*

fuel tank or that the points on your fuel pump have pitted causing it not to work.

Even if your Healey starts right up at the very turn of the key, you may quickly learn, much to your dismay, that the hydraulic fluid has leaked through the rubber seals, and you find yourself without serviceable brakes or an operating clutch. All of these maladies are very real possibilities, and have happened to some of us along the way.

My advice to all of you, especially those of you who are relatively new to the "Healey World," is to evaluate potential problems based on the service record of your particular vehicle before you store it for the winter. Make a checklist of what you feel needs to be looked at in the spring. When the time comes to get your car out, refer to the checklist and make whatever repairs you deem necessary. It's obviously beneficial to the well-being of any stored vehicle, that you make the effort to periodically run that vehicle during the off-season. It's not necessary to take your Healey out on the road, but running the engine up to temperature, and pressing the petals does help keep things fresh. Use common sense when doing this and make sure there is plenty of fresh clean air in your garage when giving your Healey its winter start up.

Lastly, at least a week before you intend to take your Healey on its first voyage of the season, review your checklist to be certain you didn't overlook anything. Doing things right in maintaining your Healey creates a pleasant, secure and happy winter off-season. Being prepared can help you avoid disappointment and dismay. Besides, a well-maintained Healey can benefit the quality of life for your neighbors, for it will prevent you from giving all of those within shouting distance of your garage a major lesson in street language. ENJOY THE HEALEY SEASON!

Frank Motta

## British Car Show

May 20-22, 2005 • Carlisle, PA

The New England Region AHCA will be very visible this year at the annual British, Import & Kit Car Show at the Carlisle Fairgrounds, Carlisle, PA on May 20-22, 2005. On Friday morning, the gates open at 7AM. The club tent will be set up in the usual spots, E10-E12, and will proudly display the club banner. There will also be local and national club information and club application forms. We are also hoping to have a Healey or two parked on the location. If you're interested in displaying your car, please contact Steve Bell as soon as possible. As usual, we invite club members to bring their "spare parts" to sell. The more STUFF on the site, the better it is for everyone involved. Piles of old rusting British steel seems to have an affect on the populace! There is some coordination available for people who want to travel down in a group. Contact Bob Bender or Steve Bell and we will try to help organize that as well. If you don't have rooms reserved, you MUST call immediately. Most of the hotels are already filled, so don't be afraid to use the Internet to try to locate a room. Because it is an event weekend, prices are higher. Plan to pay at least \$75 a night. If you need assistance in hauling parts down, there may be space available in pickup trucks and trailers. Hope to see you there!

## Watkins Glen challenge

June 17-19, 2005

For the latest updates on the Australia-US Healey Challenge, see the Web site [www.auhc.net](http://www.auhc.net).

For those who plan to attend the Watkins Glen races on June 17-19, this is considered by the track to be a "closed event." What this means is that the main gates will not be staffed or open. Not to worry. If you want to

watch, Judy at HSR (the sanctioning body) has made special arrangements for you. Upon arriving at the track, proceed to the HSR trackside registration and ask to be placed on the HSR Master Over Crew List (This does not mean you will be asked to fuel or change tires on race cars!). There will be a fee of \$35 per person and you will need to sign a liability waiver that will allow you access to the event the entire weekend. HSR's registration will be open from 7-5 Thurs., 7:30-3:00 Friday, 7:30- 1:00 Sat, 8-11 a.m. Sun. Updated hours will be posted on [www.theglen.com](http://www.theglen.com) shortly before the event. HSR has made every effort to accommodate club and street Healeys at this event (even working on a means to permit street and race Healeys to paddock together). You are most welcome to attend! Hope to see you there.

Jim Smith

## Calendar of events 2005 Healey season

### APRIL 16 - CONCLAVE MEETING

A general meeting for volunteers to work on Conclave 2007. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 16, 2005, at Highland Brewery in Sturbridge, MA. Contact Janet Kastberg at 413-245-4618. See invite page 1.

### APRIL 23

A new members meet for Western CT will be held at the home of Gene & Michelle Markowski in 1238 River Blvd., Suffield, CT 860-668-6077

### MAY 7

A new members meet for Western MA will be held at the home of Bob and Betty Bender in Dalton, MA 413-684-3934

### MAY 14

A new members meet for Southeastern MA and Rhode Island will be held at the home of John and Maureen Kelley in Bridgewater, MA 508-697-6273

### MAY 20 - MAY 22

Foreign Car Swap Meet, Carlisle, PA. See article on page 2.

### MAY 22

A new members meet for Southern NH, Northeastern MA will be held at the home of Ralph and Thalia Loosigian in Chelmsford, MA 978-256-8940.

### JUNE 5

British Cars By The Sea Car Show will be held in Waterford, CT. Contact Dave Barton for more information. 860-658-7147

### JUNE 11

Southeastern MA Progressive Dinner - Contact Steve Bell 508-947-6499

### JUNE 17 - 19

Australian Challenge Races at Watkins Glen. Contact Jim Smith 860-267-4325

### JUNE 26 - JULY 1

Conclave 2005 NC

### JULY 10

Highland Brewery Rally sponsored by Jon and Janet Kastberg of Sturbridge, MA 413-245-4618

### AUGUST 25 -28

Summit 2005 will be held at St-Sauveur, Quebec Canada. Contact Alain Giguere, 8339 St-Gerard, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2P 2E1, call at 514-385 1186

### SEPTEMBER 1 - 4

Lime Rock Vintage Races held at Lime Rock Park in CT.

### SEPTEMBER 17 - 18

British Invasion Stowe, VT.

### OCTOBER 9

Owls Head Museum Tour sponsored by James and Barbara Lea of Rockport, ME. 207-236-3632

### DECEMBER 3

Christmas Party Bob and Betty Bender

### Possible event ideas not yet slated:

Proposed meet by Rich Neville to a restoration shop in Essex Ma., but no date has been selected.

Want to add your own event? Contact Frank Motta and give him your idea. There's plenty of room on the calendar.

## Thank you

*(Frank Motta received this letter from Joff Johnk, AUHC)*

New England Region of the AHCA has graciously contributed funds toward overhead and trophies for the AUHC race at Watkins Glen, NY. Words cannot fully express to you how deeply appreciative I and other volunteers of the AUHC are for your club's generosity. A year ago when the AUHC developed from a simple conversation, no one had anticipated that the size and interest would explode. It has developed into something far greater than the small band of volunteers can keep up with and had bargain for (especially in the cost of running it), but we are not about to tell everyone to stay home! Thus, we are tremendously grateful to you.

You may already be aware of this but on learning that this year's Watkins Glen event would be what the track considers a "closed" spectator event, we asked HSR (the sanctioning body) to find away to include all street and club Healeys. Please make sure that all your members are aware that upon arriving at Watkins Glen, they should proceed to HSR's track side registration. For a fee of \$35 per person, HSR will place you on a Master Overcrew List and you will be allowed full access to the event the entire weekend. They are also making provisions for your cars to park near the race Healeys but as yet I do not know how this will play out or be managed. Go with the flow as they say. We are looking forward to enjoying the Healey camaraderie with your club at Watkins Glen.

Mr. Motta, please extend my heartfelt thanks to your club members for their gracious help.

Respectfully,

Jeff Johnk; [jeff@auhc.net](mailto:jeff@auhc.net); 952-985-9995



## For Sale/Wanted

**WANTED:** side and passenger glass windows in good shape and windshield for a 1963 BJ7 Peter 203-853-0093.

**FOR SALE:** 1956 BN2 LeMans. Total bare metal professional restoration of California car. Everything new or rebuilt professionally. Healey blue w/ navy interior. Absolutely correct in every detail - no disappointments. 100M "LeMans" registered. First place at British Invasion. SS exhaust, cover, manuals, some spares. \$40,000. Brant Sayre, Hampstead, NH. 603-329-5272 or brant.sayre@comcast.net.



**FOR SALE:** Dennis Welch tuned headers/mufflers & exhaust w/ chrome tips. Bent & fit to be bolt on application for BJ-8. System is new. 8-12 hp increase. Buyer responsible for shipping costs. \$1400 invested, sell for \$990 Dominic Falconeiri 508-947-3226.

## Welcome new members

- David and Marsha Arner, Kokadjo, ME
- John and Barbara Blaze, Osterville, MA
- Jeffrey Daniels and Kate Miller, West Hartford, CT
- Kent and Donna Glidden, Lakeville, MA
- J. Douglas and Sharon Lent, Stow, MA
- James D. and Winifred Phylfe, South Dartmouth, MA
- H. Carlton and Dorothy Reames, Rome, NY
- Kevin and Bernadette Rose, Shelton, CT
- Richard and Donna Sabonis, Westfield, MA
- Paul J. and Spielman, Norwich, CT
- Lawrence and Swift, Gloucester, MA

### Save the Date

August 25 - 28, 2005



St-Sauveur, Quebec. St-Sauveur

### Ad Requirements

Members may submit classified ads to be run in the Northeast News free of charge for other than commercial businesses. Commercial ad rates are listed to the right. Send camera-ready artwork to: Deb Katz • 9 Hartwell Rd. • Wethersfield, CT 06109 or via e-mail at dlkatz\_99@hotmail.com. Ads will be run once unless specified.

### Advertising Rates

Unit	Size		Price	
	Width	Height	Single	Full Year
Full Page	7"	10"	\$55	\$390 (save \$50)
1/2 Page	Hz 7"	4 1/2"	\$35	\$250 (save \$30)
	Vt 3 1/4"	10"		
1/4 Page	3 1/4"	4 1/2"	\$25	\$180 (save \$20)
Business card	3 1/2"	2"	\$15	\$110 (save \$10)

### Newsletter Deadlines

Month	Includes events in:	Deadline for articles
March	April/May/June	March 1
April	May/June/July	April 1
May	June/July/Aug.	May 1
June	July/Aug/Sept.	June 1



# Proud!



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