



Flatwater News

December
2012

A publication by and for the members of the
Flatwater Austin-Healey Club of Nebraska and Western Iowa

Events for Decemer 2012

12/13/12 Thursday, 6:30 pm
Pub Night
Sean O'Casey's Pub
10730 Q St
Omaha, NE

12/15/12, Breakfast, 9:00 am
D&K Restaurant
20596 Hwy 370
Gretna, NE

12/19/12, Wednesday, 12 pm,
Lincoln Lunch
The Steakhouse
3441 Adams St
Lincoln, NE

1/1/13



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From The Editor...

Happy Holidays to all of our Flatwater friends



Love,

The Conant Family
Chrissy & Gerry,
Grace & Lila & Phineas

Flatwater Austin-Healey Club

A chapter of the Austin-Healey Club of America

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**Austin-Healey Club of America
National Delegates' Assembly
Indianapolis, Indiana
November 9 – 11, 2012**

By John Ulrich FAHC Delegate

When you get right down to it, the AHCA Delegates' Assembly task is to do the business of the National Club in a manner that is reasonable and financially sound, while the delegates from clubs across America try to represent the interests of their local chapters. As always there are axes to be ground and trial balloons to be floated, but I left Indy with a newfound respect for the organization and its leadership. Credit is due President Gary Brierton, Secretary Jo Switzer, VP of club support Gary Feldman, Treasurer Bev Sealand, and VP of promotion Greg Lauser for "herding cats" in a thoughtful, calm, and respectful manner.

Once you get to the host hotel, you pretty much stay there and work until you finish the year's worth of business some time on Sunday. Friday night is informal meet 'n' greet as people arrive. Saturday night is dinner followed by an auction of items brought by the delegates. The big-ticket item is always the chance to drive the "Parade des Pilotes" lap at the Canadian Grand Prix with a Formula 1 driver sitting "Beauty Queen" style in back of your big Healey. I always take a Flatwater hat. Oh well.

The meeting begins with reports and reports and more reports. Yes, we have money in the treasury. No, we aren't getting any younger, and who will buy and drive Healeys in a world of smart phones and iPads? However, everyone does pay special attention to the Chapter Reports given by each delegate. Being the 26th chapter, I listened to twenty-five reports before it was my turn at bat. I guess I learned what I already knew. Flatwater is healthy, one of the largest and most active clubs in the country, and like about half the other clubs we are "Multi-Marque". Several clubs reported barely a handful of events per year. Many clubs have no "driving skills" events and no club offered its membership monthly breakfast, lunch, pub night, and supper (Fish) options. Throw in our shows, winter banquet, tours, caravans, and miscellaneous activities, and we were the envy of many a delegate. The free BBQ meal at our free car show with no trophies really freaked them out. During the mid morning break, many delegates and some of the officers sought me out to comment on our variety of events, and ask how they could implement something similar with their clubs. **Hats off to everyone in Flatwater who pitches in and makes these things happen.**

Other Business

President Brierton reported on negotiations to merge the Austin-Healey Club USA with the Austin-Healey Club of America. (That's "Us", by the way) Healey USA is about a third the size of AHCA and has no formal chapters or organized events. They do have a nice magazine.

Delegates felt one strong national club would better serve enthusiasts, and voted unanimously to direct the executive committee to continue efforts to combine the clubs.

Technology hit the AHCA with a bang. We have a new web host, a new site format, hot links, and those funny little boxes you can scan with your smart phone. The site is now "Secure", and will be improved on a constant basis by people who know a lot more about computers than I do.

Insurance is what it's all about. AHCA is moving from a 3 million dollar liability limit to a 4 million dollar policy to better reflect the litigious times in which we live. Insurance Director Fred Dabney stated that he is going to push for 5 million dollars of coverage in the future. Please see additional news on insurance in this issue.

Obviously, there was much more business conducted, but it was mostly procedure, and not newsletter material. I left the hotel on Sunday feeling good about what was accomplished, and (almost) sad this was to be my final term as delegate. Needless to say, the 15 hours it took to get home thanks to over booked, canceled, delayed, faux stand by, gate changed, waiting for crew, flights, gave me plenty of time for reflection on the experience.

Insurance Responsibility and a Cheeseburger

By John Ulrich – Delegate

If there was a curve ball thrown at the delegates' meeting it was over membership and insurance. As you know from the main article, Flatwater is one of the largest chapters in the country. What you may not know is we have the lowest percentage of our membership belonging to the AHCA. This in itself is not a problem as far as Flatwater is concerned. I believe our multi marque diversity is one of the strengths of the club. Additionally, AHCA has little relevance for someone who owns a MG, Triumph, Jaguar or any other non-Healey. However, when it comes time to pay the insurance premium for the four million dollar liability policy, the national members' dues are responsible for the entire amount. In real numbers, the AHCA holds back five dollars of national dues for insurance. By rough calculation, there are about nine hundred local members in all the chapters across the USA and Canada not contributing toward the insurance clubs must have to hold events.

Needless to say, there was some spirited discussion at the assembly. One option was to require every member to own an Austin-Healey. That's not as crazy as it sounds when you realize there are some clubs with 100+ members who all own Healeys. Another option was to require AHCA dues from all members. Obviously, I wanted to be sure neither one of these became motions that made it to the floor. With support of President Breirton, VP of Club Support Gary Feldman, and VP of Promotion Greg Lauser, (During a bathroom break), we were able to craft a motion to be made as soon as we returned to the meeting.

In plain words, the motion directs the AHCA to assess local chapters five dollars per local member to match the amount paid by national members through their dues. Additionally, AHCA will now have a list of names and addresses of all members in chapters throughout the USA. Not a bad thing to have when liability is in question. This will go into effect Jan. 15, 2013. The motion was made, seconded, and passed in a blink.

What does it mean for us? Well, if you're a national member, nothing, and if you own a Healey, I strongly encourage you to join the National Club. If you are a local member, the Flatwater officers felt we could cover this coming year's cost out of the treasury. In 2014, Flatwater local members will pay \$20, a \$5 increase to cover the insurance costs. AHCA members will continue to pay \$50 national dues and \$15 local dues since their insurance costs are covered by their national dues. Still a bargain, still the most bang for your buck, and still less than the price of a good cheeseburger.



The Flatwater Austin Healey Club officers
Invite you to join us for the

FAHC

Annual Holiday Banquet

Sunday January 20, 2013

At the

Hillcrest Country Club

8800 O Street

Lincoln, NE

Doors open at 12:30

Dinner served at 1:30

The buffet dinner will feature your choice of prime rib or chicken cordon bleu.

Cost is \$25.00 per person.

Please RSVP

By January 13, 2013

To

Chrissy Conant

Email cigi@cox.net

Telephone or text 712-322-5821

Moss Motors Christmas Tradition

About this time last year we introduced a brand new, all stainless steel exhaust for 6-cylinder Healeys. And just for fun (and for nefarious marketing purposes...muahaha) we put together an online drawing and gave one away on Christmas day.

To make the holidays just a little more noisy once again, we're going to give away another exhaust!

"For what car?!!" you ask?

Our newest stainless steel, mirror-polished, accurately and authentically designed, full-throated exhaust system fits beautifully on the ... Triumph TR2, TR3 and TR4 (not TR4A). And before they go on sale we're putting one up for grabs.

...and with that announcement I just lost the attention of many readers...

For TR owners still reading, here's what you need to know to enter the drawing:

Start by visiting this webpage:

<http://www.mossmotors.com/exhaustgiveaway/>

On this online form you'll find more information about the exhaust and the space to enter your name into the giveaway.

Since the holidays are fast approaching, don't delay in entering the drawing. The last day to enter is going to be Christmas Eve. If you win, Santa will be calling on Christmas Day!

Ho! Ho! Ho!

David Stuursma-claus
Moss Club Support

P.S. Moss is covering the shipping, too. However, if you live outside the contiguous 48 states, you can still win, but you'll have to make arrangements to get it across the border.

FOR SALE: 1960 MGA (BARN FIND) NO TITLE PARTS CAR

- THIS CAR WAS ABANDONED AT A STORAGE FACILITY NEAR MY HOUSE IN PAPILLION
- IT WOULD MAKE A GREAT CANDIDATE FOR RESTORATION OR USE AS A PARTS CAR
- CAR DOES NOT RUN
- CAR CURRENTLY HAS AN EARLY 1500 BUT I THINK IT SHOULD BE A 1600
- ENGINE WAS FROZEN AND WILL NEED BLOCK SLEEVED OR REPLACED
- MOST OF THE PARTS ARE THERE MINUS FRONT BUMPER AND VALANCE
- BODY HAS USUAL MGA RUST
- FRAME IS SOLID WITH ONLY SOME SMALL AREAS OF RUST NEAR THE FLOOR BOARDS
- IN DRIVER SIDE FOOTWELL
- I DO NOT HAVE A TITLE FOR THIS CAR
- ASKING \$2200.00 OR BEST OFFER OR TRADE

TODD FOKKEN 402-740-2827 OR todd.fokken@cox.net



Cars Wanted

Jaguar, XK-XKE ,MGT series, MGA Triumph TR-2 3-4-250, Mercedes 190,220,230,250,280SL, Porsche 356,911,914, Austin Healey, Riley, Alfa-Romeo, Singer, Mustang 1964-1967 Model T, A Also other interesting European and American made cars. Steve's British Connection 630-553-9023 email sbinc@aol.com Actively buying cars for over 17 years, any condition, fast payment and pick-up. Generous finder's fees.

British Car Parts

For over 20 years I have been collecting British car parts and now it is time for them to go. There are hundreds of parts worth thousands of dollars. They are 90% Sprite/Midget and include practically everything that can be removed from the car...doors, fenders, hoods, windshields, heaters, top bows, seats, carbs, some running gear parts, motors (948 and 1100), etc. While I will continue to sell individual parts, I would like to find a home for the entire collection. **Jim Danielson, Lincoln, 402-464-3733.**

Seats to Trade

Mike Nelson of Omaha has a pair of Miata seats that he would like to trade for square tail Spitfire seats.

email is mikenelson1@cox.net
cell is 402-651-3621

FAHC REGALIA

Pam Brunke has a limited quantity of Austin Healey Club hats available for members to purchase. Cost is \$15.00 each. For more information, or to request your favorite color, call Pam at (402) 438-3330, or by email at P_brunke@yahoo.com



Pam will bring your hat(s) to you at the next club event. Limited quantities remain, not all colors available.

Also available in limited quantities are blue polo shirts with the club logo in sizes M, L, XL, for \$30 and XXL for \$32.



Many of our members have requested the Flatwater logo be made available to be applied to their garments of choice. We have made arrangements with Art F/X in both their Lincoln and Omaha locations to embroider the Flatwater logo onto your articles for a fee of \$8.00.

Their locations and phone numbers are:

7400 Cross Lake Lane	4142 South 144 th St
Lincoln, NE 68516	Omaha, NE 68137
(402) 421-2611	(402) 330-4488

ARTICLES PLEASE

The newsletter is an excellent way to share information with the club. Send me details of your event, current project, or other club related activities. Send pictures if you have them. Thank you very much for your participation!cigi@cox.net

FRONT PAGE PHOTOS

Please send photos of yourself with your LBC. I would like to feature a different member and their car for the front page of each issue. cigi@cox.net

CLASSIFIED ADS

Find a home for that car, car part, or other car related merchandise. Classified ads are available at no charge to club members for club related items. Send your description and photos to your newsletter editor. cigi@cox.net

AREA EVENTS