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# Travellin'

Well the editors have been travelling for a week and it was the week before newsletter production. We took the 4 ½ hour direct flight to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and proceeded to relax for a week – we highly recommend it to everyone!

It's a great way to shorten up the winter. It's been 8 years since Ann and I have taken a winter vacation and it's been a long-g-g 8 years. Travelling with Alex was good. He's at the great age of "put me in the pool" and he's good for the rest of the day.

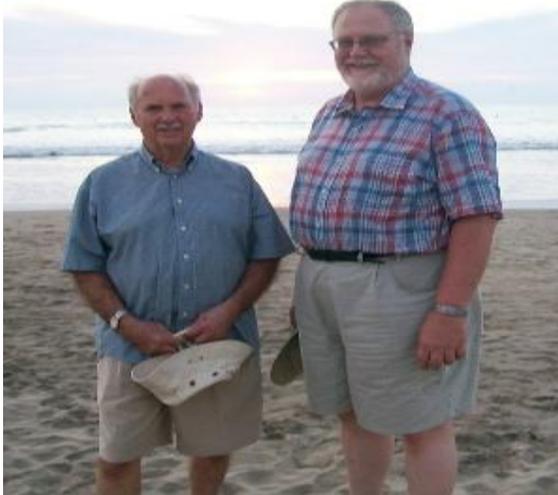
This was first time we travelled "all inclusive" and have to admit to it worked well for us. It took a lot out of the decision making effort and time for meals and made it so much easier for us. The hotel we stayed at had 4 restaurants available for us and we

didn't get tired of the food (or drinks!). The only time we were disappointed about the food was when we went back to an "old dig" from years before and it was not like we remembered it.

We went out one night with the Lowden's and Davidson's who were staying nearby in Nuevo Vallarta at the same time. We had a chance to see some newly hatched baby turtles emerge from a turtle sanctuary before going out for a nice dinner together. Thanks to them for arranging this evening out. Our cab ride back to our hotel was a speedy one where Mark saw the speedometer hit 100kph in a 70 kph zone.

The Moorby's and Hawley's (TDC) were also in the Vallarta area, but we did not have a chance to meet up with them. Seems to be the place and time for club members to vacation this winter!

The vehicle part of Mexico is quite different



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### AHCM

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Treasurer: Todd Chivers Secretary: Jim Jackson Past-President & Delegate: Elaine Davidson  
Newsletter Editors: Ann Blonski & Mark Rogers [annmark@mts.net](mailto:annmark@mts.net)  
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compared to Canada. You could see the 3-wheeled delivery scooters (as seen in the movies) to vintage VW bugs and buses, to new full sized and pint sized Ford and Chevy trucks. And the many transit buses roaring down the road.

Most of you who know me, know I drive a classic VW Rabbit pickup as a daily driver. Well down in Mexico, they have a “modern” version of this VW pickup. Too bad they don’t sell some of these vehicles “up north”. It would help with the thought of getting some of the older, polluting cars off the road by giving consumers more options.



We happened upon a nice pedestrian option while in Puerto Vallarta on a Sunday morning. The 4 center lanes of the main road to downtown “Francisco Medina Ascencio Boulevard” is closed to motorized vehicles for some period of time. We had a pleasant walk among other pedestrians and cyclists down this usually very busy road. We had a chance to walk down to the hotel we last stayed in 13 years ago and see more of the changes to Vallarta and its beaches and hotels.

Hurricane Kenna in 2002 sure changed the look of the beaches in “P.V”. That disaster along with Puerto Vallarta hosting some of the 2011



Pan American Games events (sailing, marathon swimming, triathlon, and beach volleyball) spurred a lot of development along the city beaches and the Malecon.

It was great travellin’ – hope the Groundhog was right and we only have 6 more weeks of winter!



## Club Memberships Dues

If you haven’t done so already, now is the time to renew your membership to AHCM and AHCA.

This year the Austin-Healey Club of America asked for renewals to be complete by January 15th so as to expedite printing the membership directory - so please send your money asap.

If you are a local only member, 2013 dues are \$20.

If you are local and AHCA, 2013 dues are \$70 combined. AHCM will absorb any exchange differential.

Please send a cheque payable to:

Austin-Healey Club of Manitoba

% Todd Chivers  
55 Niagara St,  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3N 0V3

## Delegate's Report

- Elaine Davidson

The 2012 Austin Healey Club of America Delegates' meeting was held at Plainfield, Indiana (Indianapolis) on November 10 to 11. To date, the minutes of the meeting have not been produced. So hopefully, this report will cover the major items discussed.

Prior to roll call and the Officers reports, there was a lengthy discussion about a possible merger between the AHCA and the Austin Healey Club of USA. Apparently, these discussions go back ten years and it was emphasized that this was at the discussion stage only.

Ben Moore announced that Elliot Flaws would take over "Future 50" effective immediately. Ben stated that there was an emphasis on technology (websites) to keep event costs down.

Robbie Cook will take over advertising from Bob Gilleland. The Concourse Committee announced new AHCA concourse requirements. The Donald M Healey Memorial Fund's scholarship was discussed. The AHCM donated towards the stained glass window that was donated to the St. Michel's Church at Perranporth, England in memory of Donald Healey.

The Editor of the Healey Marque, Reid Trummel, stated that he has been editor for the past 7 years. The cost to produce the Healey Marque is \$3.08 per magazine plus shipping. Reid reminder us, that 2013 will be the "50<sup>th</sup>" anniversary for the BJ8 and that the Conclave is the AHCA's signature event.

Ben Moore provided a wrap-up on the 2012 Conclave held at Louisville, Kentucky. There were 230 Healey cars, 521 people, 42 trailers, 4 concourse cars and made a profit of which half (\$10,297.97) was shared with the AHCA.

Roger Hamel reported on Conclave 2013 in Charlevoix, Quebec. Dates for Conclave 2013 are June 23 to 28. The website is [www.conclavecharlevoix.org](http://www.conclavecharlevoix.org). Race car legend, John Chatham will be the honoured guest.

Carl Brown did a presentation on Conclave 2014. The Carolinas Club will be hosting Conclave 2014 at the Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, VA on June

15 to 19. The rate for the hotel rooms is \$129, meals \$15. The rates for Bed and Breakfast are \$159 plus tax including breakfast. It sounds like a beautiful location.

Conclave 2015 may be a joint venture between Sports and Touring – Philadelphia and New England. The proposal for 2015 was discussed.

Mike Schneider updated the delegates on membership. The renewal date for membership has been changed to January 15 in order to meet the deadline for the printing of the directory.

Gary Brieton and Edie Anderson are working together to complete the Delegate Handbook. Consideration will be given to including: AHCA By-laws, insurance, membership, setting up a club, hosting delegate meetings, DMH award guidelines, reimbursement guidelines, reports and conclave history.

Carl Brown gave the current progress on the web site and most of the member issues are resolved.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding insurance. Fred Dabney stated that he had received 30 requests from Canada for explanations of the insurance policy. It was proposed to increase the insurance to \$5 million (rather than the current \$4 million). There was discussion regarding clubs with non-AHCA members and their not contributing to the cost of the insurance coverage. It was decided that each Area Club shall be required to provide a list, including name and address, of all non-AHCA members. This list is to be sent to the Vice President of Club Support (Gary Feldman) by January 15 of each year with payment of \$5.00 for each such name. This is to cover the insurance premiums that are required to be paid each year. This is a like amount that is paid by AHCA members through their national dues.

Michel Hartfield, president of the Austin Healey Club of Oregon, did an excellent presentation requesting membership into the AHCA. Accepted.

It was noted that Margaret Healey phoned President, Gary Brierton, to express her condolences and concern for victims of Hurricane Sandy.

The Delegates were reminded that the Dutch Healey Club would open the Netherlands Museum

on November 24, 2012 in Amsterdam. The web site is: [www.Healeymuseums.nl](http://www.Healeymuseums.nl)

President Gary Brierton had closing remarks. The next delegates meeting will be held at the 2013 Conclave in June held at Charlevoix, PQ.



## This 'n' That

- Jean Caron

I realized a few days ago that I did not receive a calendar from the AHCA and while checking with other Club members, it became apparent that no one had received them. I sent a message to the Healey List and everyone had received theirs in November 2012 along with their magazine.

What I did find out, in conjunction with Ed Driver who also did some digging around, is that we were not sent the calendar nor the November issue of Healey Marque likely due to shipping issues after the storm Sandy. Apparently the AHCA sends their monthly magazine for distribution somewhere in or around New York and for some reason we did not get ours. Elaine and Ed are looking into it some more and by the time you read this, you may already know what happened. But I also know that the Ontario Club received two magazines and two calendars. (*Editors' Note:* We just received our November issue

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and the calendar on January 30<sup>th</sup>)

It appears that with the frigid weather that we had as of late convinced many Club members to head to warmer climates. Many have not been around for a few weeks, so have not been able to find out much on the work being done on some cars. Carol and I will be away for a month as well, hopefully it will warm up for everyone here.

## Upcoming Club Events

- Feb 4 Club Meeting, 7:30pm, John & Elaine Davidson's
- March 4 Club Meeting, 7:30pm, Steve & Kate Thompson's
- April 1 Club Meeting, 7:30pm, Jean & Carol Caron's
- April 20 Annual Garage Tour, more details to follow



**Chrome - Copper - Nickel**  
**Brass - Gold**  
**Black Chrome**

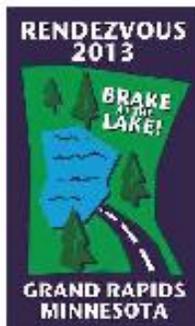
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The shores of Sugar Lake and banks of the Mississippi in Grand Rapids beckon you to “Brake at the Lake” for the 2013 Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous June 6-9.

With Sugar Lake Lodge as the focal point of weekend activities and accommodations at other Grand Rapids inns,



there are plenty of rooms for everyone to enjoy the hospitality of the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club and citizens of the Greater Grand Rapids area.

Those wanting an early start on the weekend, can arrange a relaxing – or at least challenging – round of golf Thursday at the lodge’s 18-hole course. Tee times can be made directly with the pro shop. The official good times begin Thursday afternoon with registration from 3-7 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., welcoming

hospitality begins at the lodge featuring activities that renew existing friendships and foster new ones.

Friday will dawn on a variety of activities. Gymkhana enthusiasts will gather at the Grand Rapids Airport at 9 a.m. for the drivers’ meeting, followed by pulse-pounding runs on an autocross artfully designed by Tom Hazen until 3 p.m. If

you prefer a more sublime driving pace, take one of several self-guided tours of the surroundings, go on a Treasure Hunt or meander into downtown Grand Rapids for a tour of the Blandin Corporation’s paper mill, nearby shopping and luncheon opportunities.

Starting at 3 p.m., Mike & Gloria Lynch’s team will begin aligning our sports cars around the Grand Rapids town square for a Downtown Car Show benefiting local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops from 4-7 p.m.. Each driver will receive

Morris Garage Band will begin playing classics from the '50s, '60s & '70s at 8 p.m. Friday for dancing and entertainment at Sugar Lake Lodge.



Friday’s Downtown Car Show will be a fundraiser for Grand Rapids area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

a bucket with their registration number on it to place before their car. Townspeople and tourists will be invited to cast as many votes as they wish for their favorites using \$1 bills to buy ballots. All proceeds go directly to the scouts. Of course owners may also vote for their cars as often as they want. The byword is “Vote Early & Often” – just like they do in Chicago. The sports cars receiving the most ballots will be recognized at Saturday’s awards banquet. Food & beverage options will be available on the square and at local restaurants throughout the late afternoon and early evening.

Saturday morning is all about rallying or otherwise enjoying the beauty of the area. Afternoon highlights include a Lakeshore Show & Shine, Ladies’ Wine & Cheese Party and Tech Sessions for the guys. The evening’s happy hour and awards banquet will cap weekend activities.

Register @ [www.mnhealey.com/rendezvous](http://www.mnhealey.com/rendezvous)

# Can/Am Rendezvous

June 6-9

23rd Annual Vintage Sports Car Gathering  
Sugar Lake Lodge \*\*\* Grand Rapids, Minn.

Hosted by: *The Minnesota Austin-Healey Club*

## Weekend Schedule

- Thursday -- Registration: 3-7 p.m. Hospitality Reception: 6:30-9 p.m.
- Friday -- Registration: 8 a.m.- Noon, Airport AutoCross, Self-Guided Tours, Treasure Hunt, Downtown Car Show, Morris Garage Band 8-10 p.m.
- Saturday -- Car Fun Rally, Lakeshore Show & Shine, Ladies Wine & Cheese Party, Tech Sessions, Awards Banquet
- Sunday -- Breakfast & Goodbyes



ON-LINE REGISTRATIONS @ [www.mnhealey.com/rendezvous](http://www.mnhealey.com/rendezvous)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT LEGIBLY first and last name/names as they should appear on badges)

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province/PostalCode \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include e-mail address if you want a confirmation of registration – none will be sent otherwise.)

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle/s to be registered: Yr. \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_  
Yr. \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

On-line Registration \$70 Mail-in Registration \$75 After May 1: \$90.00 (All fees in U.S. Dollars) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Registration includes one vehicle, two adults, one child under 18 & one free T-shirt)

Each additional person: \$5.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Each additional vintage car: \$5.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Free shirt size \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd shirt \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd shirt \_\_\_\_\_ Added shirts: \_\_\_ x \$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(T-Shirt Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, XL, XXL & XXXL)

Ladies Wine & Cheese Party: \$10.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Banquet tickets: \$35.00/person x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

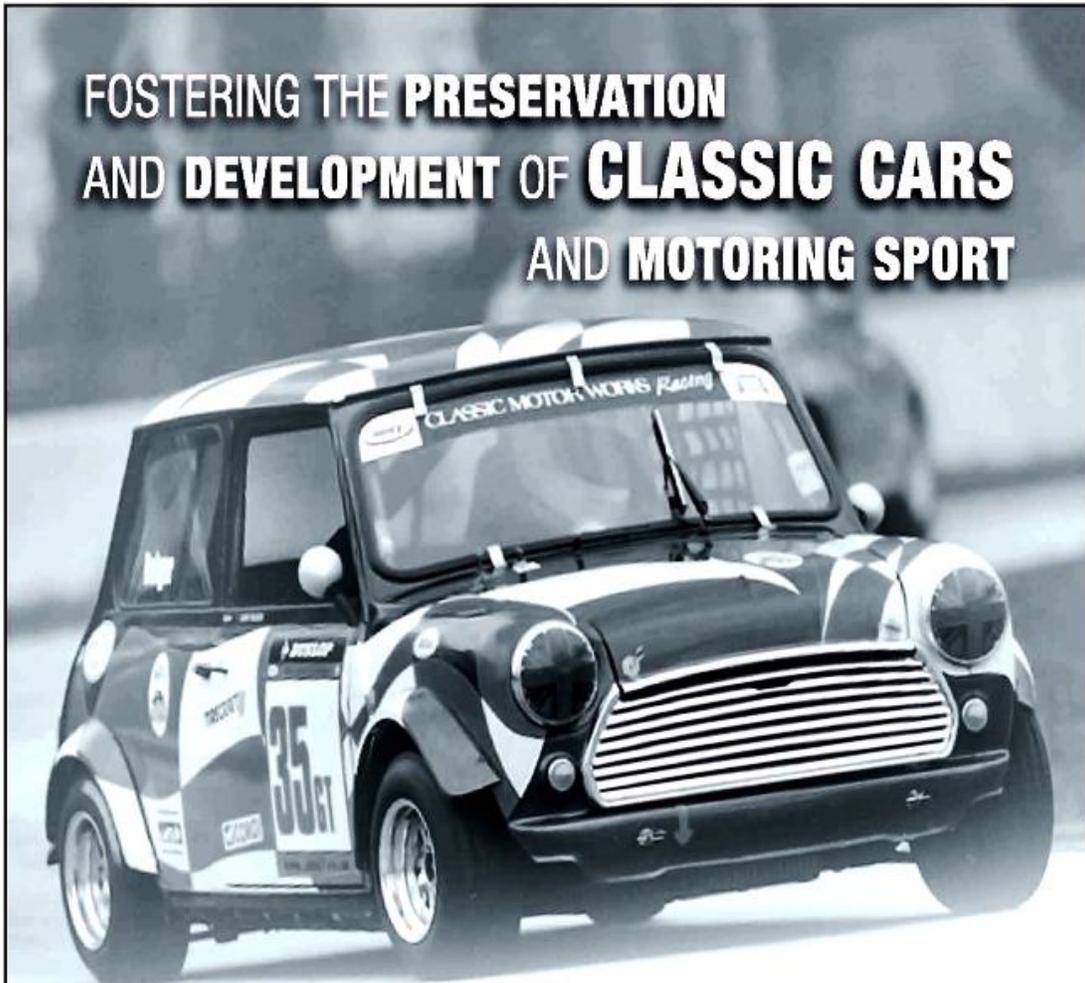
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SIGN ME UP FOR: Paper Mill Tour \_\_\_ Autocross \_\_\_ Downtown Car Show \_\_\_ Rally \_\_\_ Tech Sessions \_\_\_

IF MAILING REGISTRATION, make checks payable to Minnesota Austin-Healey Club (U.S. \$\$s). Send completed form to:  
Greg Lauser, W12349 694th Ave., Prescott, Wis. 54021 Registration questions to: [glauser@centurylink.net](mailto:glauser@centurylink.net)  
Cancellations before May 1 are subject to a \$15.00 fee. No refunds after May 1.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** Sugar Lake Lodge at [info@sugarlakelodge.com](mailto:info@sugarlakelodge.com) or call 1-800-450-4555 or 1-218-327-1462  
Other Grand Rapids Lodging: AmeriInn. 1-218-326-8999  
Super 8, 1-218-327-1108  
Sawmill Inn, 1-800-667-7508  
Timberlake Lodge, 1-866-800-2200

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