



Golden Gate

HEALEY HAPPENINGS

Golden Gate Austin Healey Club, Inc.
Sunnyvale, CA Vol 10, No. 11 Nov/Dec 2008

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*We're having a party
(and a brief meeting)*

Please support the club by attending!

The annual GGAHC holiday dinner and meeting will be

**Sunday December 7,
3:00pm**

**The Old Spaghetti Factory
1955 Mt. Diablo Street
Concord, CA 94520**

Price is \$20 per person including tax and gratuity. Please mail your check *in advance*, payable to:



President
David Nock
209-824-1562
Healeydoc@sbcglobal.net

VP Membership
John Trifari
408-373-6479
jtrifari@comcast.net

VP/Counsel and Secretary
Lee Bardellini
510-582-6246
HeLeeEsq@aol.com

VP/Events
Position vacant

VP Treasurer
Dan Sekella
925-825-8966
Sekella@pacbell.net

A-H Club Holiday 2008

Mail your check to:

**Dan Sekella
1410 Mohr Court
Concord CA 94518**

Call Dan if you decide on short notice to attend: (925) 825-8966.

Be sure to include a note specifying your choice of entrée and any other specific requests.

See page 3 for a list of entrees and driving directions.

Rendezvous 2009

June 14-18, 2009



See page 6 for program and registration

Editor's Column

Loren Parks
Chico, CA



A consequence of introducing color and more photographs into the newsletter is that the black-and-white printed version sometimes suffers. For example, photographs of tires in the technical article last issue turned into black blobs in print. I will be more careful in the future. Those of you who receive the printed version are encouraged to convert to e-mail receipt if possible. E-mail receipt also saves the Club about \$20/recipient/year. Please notify me or John Trifari if you are willing to convert from print to e-mail.

We welcome two new contributors to the Newsletter this issue—Tico Cortes and Bill Putnam. Member contributions are essential, so if you have an idea or attend a car event, I would like to hear from you!

Planning for Rendezvous 2009 is underway; the next meeting will be held December 7 at 2:00pm at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord just before the annual holiday dinner. All Club members are welcome to participate.

Continued on page 5

ADVERTISING RATES

Rates effective January 1, 2007 (space only).

Full Page B&W (6 ½" by 8 ¼").....\$350

One-Half Page B&W Horizontal
(6 ½" wide by 4 ¼" high).....\$200

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One Quarter Page B&W
(4" high by 3/14" wide).....\$120

One Eighth Page Horizontal (Business Card)
2" high by 3 ½" wide.....\$80

For advertising information, contact:

Steve Cloyes
925-935-9044 or
stevesvoice@msn.com

Send artwork in JPG format to:

Loren Parks
LorParks@gmail.com

The Golden Gate Austin Healey Club
is affiliated nationally with the



**For the latest Golden Gate news
Visit our web site at
www.GoldenGateHealeys.com**

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Holiday dinner (continued)

The dinner will include three courses:

- (1) Mixed green salad and bread.
- (2) Entrée. Choose from
 - a. Spaghetti with Sicilian meatballs and tomato sauce
 - b. Jumbo crab ravioli
 - c. Chicken marsala
 - d. Spinach tortellini with alfredo sauce
- (3) Ice cream dessert, with coffee and tea provided.



There will be a cash bar available for those who want other beverages. You can arrive early and meet in the bar. Dinner will be served at 4:15pm.

Directions to The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord

Arriving from the south on I680

Past Walnut Creek, just beyond the Monument exit, veer right on 242 and exit at Clayton Road;

Follow Clayton Road approximately one mile to Galindo Street; turn left on Galindo and travel 3 blocks to Salvio Street, right on Salvio, and next right on Mt Diablo Street.

The Old Spaghetti Factory is at 1955 Mt Diablo, diagonally across Todos Santos Plaza from E. J. Phairs.

Arriving from the north on I680

Exit on Willow Pass Road; turn left onto Willow Pass (east) and pass under I680; proceed one mile to Galindo Street and turn left on Galindo, right on Salvio, and right on Mt Diablo.



Classic Car Appraisals

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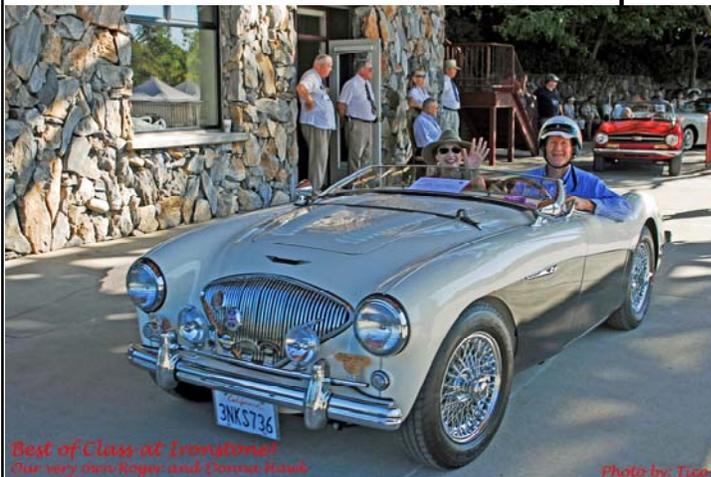
The free **enclosed parking garage** is on Salvio just before Mt Diablo on the left.



A Well-Deserved *Best of Class* Award at Ironstone

Arturo "Tico" Cortes

The 12th annual Ironstone Concours d'Elegance was held on September 27th at the beautiful setting of the Ironstone Vineyards, in the cozy town of Murphys in Calaveras County. Nine Healeys entered the Concours, amongst all sorts of other marques from the automotive universe.



Best of Class at Ironstone!
That very man Roger and Donna Hawk

Photo by Tico

Roger and Donna Hawk take a victory lap in their 1956 Austin Healey BN2 100-M

All of the cars were beautifully presented. As far as the Healeys, this year we were placed right by the lake, with the water so close that the background for pictures was perfect. All of the Healey's were looking as sporty as ever, but there were three BJ8's that were truly amazing—particularly a 1967 that had undergone a recent frame-off restoration. That car was painted in a beautiful Healey Blue; it was an impressive car. So I thought, once I saw it: "This

one will win best of class." It belongs to a gentleman out of the Fresno area who hauled it in an enclosed trailer. Then I also thought "This is no fun; a Healey should be driven." Anyway, a couple of other Healeys that I had never seen before were entered—a British Racing Green BJ8 and an Old English White BJ8 that were extremely clean and in showroom condition. Then there were cars from the GGAHC brought by Dave Nock, Roger and Donna Hawk, Jorge Quintero from Concord, and ours which we drove from Sacramento.

Well, I thought the Blue Healey was going to win until I saw Roger and Donna's 100 taking its place on the grass, then I changed my mind. Their car looked so beautiful that it could easily beat any other car. And it did! Roger and Donna's beautiful car won Best of Class! We had a great time this year, with excellent weather and a lot of really amazing vehicles attending. We certainly

hope to be there next year. Congratulations to Roger and Donna!



Tico and Ari Cortes with their 1963 BJ7

Calendar of Events

To list an event, contact Loren Parks (530) 893-8643 LorParks@gmail.com.

For a more complete list see the GGAHC web site:

www.GoldenGateHealeys.com

Sunday, December 7, 2:00pm. *Rendezvous 2009* planning meeting at The Old Spaghetti Factory just before the annual dinner. All Club members are invited to participate.

Sunday, December 7. GGAHC annual meeting and holiday party at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord. Meet at 3:00pm. Reservation requested. See page 3.

Saturday, February 21. Tech Session at British Car Specialists in Stockton. Let Dave Nock know if you plan to attend. Healeydoc@sbcglobal.net (209) 824-1562

Sunday, April 26. Chico British Car Show featuring Austin Healey. www.chicobritishcarshow.com.

Sunday, April 26. Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show, Half Moon Bay CA. www.miramarevents.com/dreammachines/lead.html

For Healey Events Nationwide, go to the Austin Healey Club of America web site:

www.serve.com/AHCA/events.htm

Editor's column (continued)

Volunteers are needed for Rendezvous before and during the event. Tasks include:

- Advertising
- Marketing (promotion)
- Registration (pre-event preparation of materials and during-event reception)
- Road Rally
- Car show
- Arts & crafts exhibits
- Funkhana
- Ladies event
- Awards dinner
- Regalia (shirts, hats, patches)
- Tour guides
- Tech sessions

You can volunteer for more than one task. Please let Dave Nock or John Trifari know if you can help.



Election of Club Officers

There will be an election of Club officers for 2009 at the brief business meeting held during the annual Holiday dinner on December 7. Please consider volunteering to serve for a year and let Dave Nock know of your interest before or during the meeting. The Club especially needs a VP of Events; the position has been vacant for a year.



Austin Healey Rendezvous 2009

The **Golden Gate Austin Healey Club** will host the annual Austin Healey Rendezvous at Jackson Rancheria <http://www.jacksoncasino.com/> beginning with registration and a reception on Sunday, June 14, 2009, and concluding with an awards dinner on Wednesday, June 17. "We have an exciting list of activities planned for the meet," said Golden Gate president Dave Nock. "These include a funkhana, a road rally, and a special car show, as well as guided tours along some of the most beautiful mountain roads in the country including the old towns made famous during the Gold Rush of 1849." Also planned are tech sessions, a special ladies' event and several activities coordinated with local happenings in the area. "We have put together a unique program that we hope will appeal to everyone," Nock continued. "This is a meet you will long remember."

The tentative schedule for the meet is as follows:

Sunday June 14: Afternoon check-in followed by reception
Dinner at local restaurants

Monday June 15: Funkhana from 9 am to 11 am
Road rally in the afternoon
Tech sessions
Special ladies event in the afternoon
Happy hour
Dinner at local restaurants

Tuesday June 16: Car Show at Ironstone Vineyards www.ironstonevineyards.com,
followed by a guided tour through the Sierras
Tech sessions
Happy hour
Dinner at local restaurants

Wednesday June 17: Guided tours through Gold Country with lunch stops
Blackjack tournament
Happy hour
Awards dinner

Thursday June 18: Morning departure

The registration fee of \$95 covers two people and one car. Additional adults are \$50 each; additional cars are \$25 each. Rooms are available at the Jackson Rancheria for \$89 per night (no tax). A registration form will be in each club newsletter, *Golden Gate Healey Happenings*, or can be downloaded from the club web site at www.GoldenGateHealeys.com. Payment is by check only.



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A dark green Austin-Healey convertible car, shown from a front-three-quarter view. The car is a classic open-top model with wire wheels.

Rendezvous 2009: June 14 to 18, 2009

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____
Street Address _____
City/State/Zip _____ Country _____
Telephone _____ E-mail _____
Children attending _____
(name/age) (name /age) (name/age)
Local Club _____ National Club _____

Attendees must be registered. Fee covers one car and up to two adults, hospitality functions, registration packet, tours and car show. There will be additional charges for other events as specified below. Children under 15 are admitted free of charge.

Accommodations at the Jackson Rancheria Resort for Rendezvous 2009 can be obtained only through the Jackson Rancheria after a registration number has been issued. All charges and taxes relating to accommodations and other Resort services are the sole responsibility of the attendee. A registration number will be provided upon receipt of this form. All payments are in US dollars.

I would like to participate in

Car Show Touring
 Funkhana Rally

Vehicles to register

Model _____

Year _____

Model _____

Year _____

Model _____

Year _____

Registration fees:

Registration: _____ / @\$95 _____

Additional cars _____ / @\$25 _____

Additional adults _____ / @\$50 _____

Awards dinner _____ / @\$40 _____

TOTAL _____

Make check payable to **Rendezvous 2009** and send along with this form to John Trifari, 1160B La Rochelle Terrace, Sunnyvale CA 94089. jtrifari@comcast.net

Release and Waiver (signature required)

By signature below I/we release the Golden Gate Austin Healey Club, the Austin Healey Club of America and any and all other participating organizations, their officers and members, and any and all event sponsors from any and all liability for any loss, damage or other claim resulting from any injury to any person(s) or property resulting from my/our participation in Rendezvous 2009, including travel to and from this event. The car(s) I have registered for this event are covered by liability insurance.

Signature

Print name

Date

**CHARITY CHALLENGE at INFINEON RACEWAY
SEARS POINT, CA OCTOBER 10 - 12, 2008**

by Bill Putnam

Saturday October 11 was a great day for a run up to Sears Point for the Vintage Car Races. Three of us—Linda and Nigel Rhodes and myself from the Golden Gate Club—left Walnut Creek in a two-car caravan (if you can call two cars in line a caravan) for Infineon raceway.

The nice thing about this event is that everyone enter the garage area where the cars are being prepared. The drivers and mechanics are more than willing to talk about their cars. It's like going to a vintage car show and then being treated to watching those very same cars being raced by the people you've just met. Talk about up close and personal!

The poster car for the event was a 1960 "Birdcage" Maserati Tipo 61. This beautiful blue and white vintage racer is owned by Carl Moore of Alamo. This is not just your everyday Birdcage; it is the very car driven to victory by Stirling Moss and Dan Gurney in the 1960 Nurburgring 1000 KMS.



Carl, an old friend from the 50's (I gave him his first ride in a sports car in 1958) begged me for a picture of my 1955 Austin Healey LeMans with his Birdcage Maserati. I was reluctant at first, but begrudgingly I agreed. Seriously, what a privilege!

**1960 "Birdcage" Maserati poster car
& Bill Putnam's 1955 Healey LeMans**

During the morning practice session we had the opportunity to meet Gary Black, owner/driver who was racing his 1960 light green Austin Healey 3000. Imagine that—three Healey people finding a Healey driver to talk to. Gary told us that for a modest donation to the Charity he would take us for a few laps around the track. Well, without hesitation Linda signed us

up and off we went. Linda was very brave and went first as Nigel and I watched from the pit area. She must have been having a good time as each time they passed the pits she had her arms in the air waving to us, or maybe she was trying to get out. When they came into the pits at the end of their run Linda had a smile on her face that was still there an hour later.

Continued on page 9

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Charity Challenge at Infineon (continued)

Nigel went next and told me it was a great ride; it must have been as he had the same smile on his face as Linda. Now it was my turn. After bending like a pretzel to get in I was already out of breath when Gary got the thumbs up and off we went. The track itself has eleven turns with lots of elevation changes with cutbacks and that 6 cylinder tri-carb engine just screamed into the first turn, up the hill, slide right then slide left over the top and down the hill. The rest is



Gary Black about to take Nigel Rhodes for some laps as Linda Rhodes looks on

just a blur; at one point I thought I would mess myself. As Gary got control of the car in turn seven (or was it turn eight?) I also gained some semblance of control and began enjoying the ride. I do believe that Gary did some things with that Healey that Donald Healey never envisioned; after four laps we pulled into the pits and it was over.

Both Nigel and I manned up and admitted to a little upset stomach after the ride, Linda just looked at us as if we were babies and said she was fine—no problems. I don't have to tell you that Nigel and I felt like big sissies.

After that we watched the races. Gary and His Healey did quite well as did Carl Moore in his 61 Lotus. The drivers are all sportsmen who do this because they love their sport—not for money or glory. Their cars are beautiful, fast and loud. All in all Linda, Nigel and I had a great time and vowed to do it again next year.

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The New California Autumn Classic Venue: a Great Success!

by Bill Meade, Event Organizer

This year's California Autumn Classic saw a record numbers of cars turn out for the Saturday tour and dinner, followed by the Sunday Concours. Nearly 200 cars—including 39 Austin Healeys— were displayed over a four-block area in downtown Morgan Hill for the Concours.



Saturday afternoon started with a mountain and back-roads tour for 65 cars planned by Brian Blevin and Tracy Drummond of the GGAHC. The tour concluded at "On The Road Again"—a new restoration shop in Morgan Hill. Refreshments of iced shrimp, fresh fruit, wine and

champagn were provided by the shop and The California Autumn Classic. Later Saturday evening over 100 participants joined together for an enjoyable Italian buffet dinner at Mama Mia's restaurant. After some fun door prizes were



awarded, everyone headed home for needed rest before the big show day.

Sunday started with some light fog but the sun soon broke out and kept the day in the comfortable mid 70's. Morgan Hill proved to be a big improvement over past years with much more space for car display, lots of tree shade and

Continued on page 11

Nick & Sandy Klein: 1966 BJ8

26 restaurants available for lunch. The event also had eight vendors, restoration shops and car club displays adding things to do and see. The Downtown Association was most welcoming to the group of British car owners' clubs.



Robert Griffin: 1955 AH100S

At the end of the day, 27 silver first place trophies were awarded and a special silver cup to the Grand Winner—a 1953 Nash Healey. **Gary Anderson** did his usual excel-



Luther Gentry: 1956 AH100

lent job of highlighting the winning cars as they drove up for awards. Some excellent examples of Austin Healeys were winners of the four Healey classes. Each received a first- place silver plate during the drive-up awards.

Healey Classifieds

(no submittals)

Barrett-Jackson auction results

Las Vegas Auction: October 16–18, 2008

1967 AH 3000 BJ8 \$44,000
 1960 AH 3000 BT7 \$63,800
 1961 AH 3000 BT7 \$74,800
 1963 AH 3000 Mk II BJ7 \$68,200
 1962 AH 3000 Mk II \$53,900
 1964 AH Mk III Bj8 \$77,000
 1958 AH Bugeye Sprite \$19,800



Donald Healey

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