Delegates meeting 11-11-2017

Cambria Suites

Plainfield, IN

Gary F - introductions, turn cellphones off, house keeping duties, recognize veterans, pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to accept minutes from previous meetings with a minor adjustment. Approved by voice vote.

Gary talked to people in Texas and Florida and did not find that any Healey members suffered damage as a result of the storm damage. Bob Brown’s son in law and Melissa’s husband passed away during conclave.

Edie Lowery did roll call. Asked for proxies and delegates.

Cascade asked to be removed as an affiliated club in January 2017. Insurance was the motivating factor to leave affiliation with AHCA. About three fourths of their members were not AHCA members and as such had to pay the 'local only' fee to the AHCA.

Steve Bell noted that the formation of the committee for club support included Cliff Hudgins, Steve Bell, Gary Brierton. Edie will add to minutes previously approved.

Club reports…..David Nock reported the fires in CA destroyed 7500 homes. One Healey member lost his home. Monterey International meet was quite a success. Over 400 people and 200 Healeys. Dick Green, Quebec club, is concentrating on recruiting young people into the Healey community. The Quebec club has been hosting the Canadian Formula 1. 17 years ago the organizer heard a Healey going by a motel room and that sound got his attention. Thus Healeys have been driving the race drivers around the track on opening day…….CapitalHealeys.org is a new website Jack White mentioned. Bob Brown – Midwest-getting some new members-most are Sprite owners-no known reason for that….Kansas city did Damn runs-who needs another damn run? (insert chuckle here) ………..Bruce Gearns– drive to Hell MI that is next to a damn and the Damn Site INN, so his club has a drive to Hell, MI., MN club does adopt a highway-who gets the most valuable thing out of the ditch? Have 23,000 in bank, NER Steve Bell-NER is now divided into Wings. 7 Wings which function as a mini club-they have their own car shows and meets. Best events involve food-lobsters or clambake, call in tech sessions-call in number published and are getting a great response-25 or more on a call in tech session..changed term from meetings to gatherings….makes the appearance more informal…..Triad-Cliff Hudgins liked Gary F.'s mallet of understanding-said he needs to get one so Gary jumped up and implied Cliff could be president and Gary sat in Cliff’s seat. All of the delegates got a good laugh…..Dave Roberts-not very active club-going to make contact with club members attempting to activate club members-needs to generate some interest and excitement ….Daryl Wagner-NE Ohio-having success piggy backing with multi marque events rather than trying to organize their own Healey event…..Jake Jacobs-Cincy club - meetings at members homes is working for them..uses gathering term instead of meeting, 9 memberships under 40 years old-some are second generation members..they have Romeo lunches-Retired Old Men Eating Out..meet for lunch about 1:30-Gayle Loos arranges it….Date night on Thursdays-couples gather for supper on a Thursday night each month…group of techies who like to wrench..call for help and the techies show up…Charlie Frazer-Oregon club is robust-objective with meets is to break even…. Jim Revel Bonneville-has a new young member who is 52, brought a chuckle from delegates, he will be restoring car soon…..now do a monthly meeting every other month due to lack of participation in every month….problem is lack of interest by other fellow members so participation is low….Mike Swanger – Wisconsin-membership has been steady due to facebook page..club membership doesn’t use facebook page very much but facebook is great recruiting tool….

Bruce Gearns-club support-local only report-some of the local clubs have members that do not own a Healey-they are multi-marque clubs… a person with a Triumph isn’t going to join AHCA. Flatwater and Bluewater/Sarnia are two examples of multi-marque clubs….

Don Klein-vp safety-sema – Specialty Equipment Manufacturers Association-going to update AHCA website with tire information……update contact info-missing waiver of liability on website in members only -will be moved to members only section under safety section- if there is a driving event on private property then waivers should be signed by participants, such as gymkhana, funkhana etc……write a FAQ section for website to cover insurance for various events…..

Neil Anderson-Conclave –AHCA will have 42 years of conclaves including international meets…decide how to implement continuing conclave celebrating the cars etc….he will create a steering committee for future of conclave-decide how to go forward for the next 5-10 years – conclave may evolve into something slightly different in order to continue… some of the parameters may have to change….perhaps move from hot summer months…….help from other clubs in staffing the conclave…host club does overall management with other regional clubs helping in other areas such as gymkhana, funkhana, registration, promotion, car show…used to have clubs compete with bids for conclave…field of dreams concept-build it they will come…looking at new areas in the country that would entice Healey people to attend…..steering committee has Gary Brierton, Jim Frakes, Neil Anderson…….

Bonnie-wrap up of Conclave 2017…she did build it and they did not come….the event was a success…being small and intimate made it quite a bit of fun…Waco was a successful small town to host a conclave…14 exceptional sponsors……a lot of donors that gave things to auction off….made a quilt out of old regalia items,,patches and t shirts etc…items sold at conclave 2017 from Margo Foster generated $1200 which will be donated to the DMH fund…..92 registrations and 55 Healeys……

Dick Storrs-French Lick….slide show on west baden and French lick resort, excellent slide show....

Eileen Wetzel-conclave 2019-Black Hills, devils tower and badlands SD, Sept 8-13, 2019-Deadwood, SD is likely to be host city or possibly Rapid City SD…..Crazy Horse and Mount Rushmore are two of many attractions...motion made by me and seconded by Nathan, passed unanimously

Bev-financial report, no need for a dues increase……..

Edie Lowery-digitizing project-thanks to Leney and me…we needed to digitize important papers-Baird Foster’s materials have not yet been evaluated to be scanned….how would we protect non paper items? No decision on protecting things like trophies, plaques etc..

Fred Dabney-insurance-program is strong and viable for our size club. JC Taylor indicates there will not likely be an increase in our premium. No claims in the past year…..our coverage is comparable to other major car clubs such as Jaguar and Mercedes Benz etc……Bev Sealand is covered with a fiduciary bond by our insurance…….

Fred…DMH fund…Fred is re-organizing the DMH fund and creating a board….John Heffron, Fred, Bev Sealand, Peter Sturtevant and Trish Woglom are new board members, the five bod members will make decisions for the DMH fund….The outreach of the bod will be to contact colleges and schools for their participation in teaching restoration of automobiles…still will have a connection to UK for scholarship efforts but search the US for scholarship recipients as well….McPherson University in Kansas has a program that teaches auto restoration…..little over $20,000 in DMH fund

Reid, all is good under budget $6400.00, round of applause for excellent job

Laurie Wilford-advertising-some advertisers have not paid..Laurie has mailed three letters trying to collect advertising fees….problem is that some of our advertisers are dropping off due to aging, retiring, slow business. How to get members to better support advertisers, should we support advertisers that don’t support us any longer? We need a perceived value…digital advertising is becoming more important, bundle advertising-but ad in Marque and get space on website. Haggerty is dropping out of support for our club.

Steve Bell-regalia….AHCA is buying car club grille badges…..new online store on the AHCA website….sold 14 items to 13 people this past year..a weak year for sales. Offering only AHCA goods, not generic Healey stuff.

Ben-VP Promotions- video footage-could be put up on website-if the video was shot by a member then it could be put on website, not something professionally shot due to copyright issues……younger members are joining online, we can re-boot future 50-technology as a recruitment tool-facebook and website…don’t forget about phone calls……..human interaction-mentor programs- getting on phone to invite them to an event or meeting, using our webmaster to build out a local club’s site, he has provided a quote that is reasonable with a link to AHCA for events etc. Ben is out of time, it is Bourbon: 30

( think 4:30) so time to move on….out of print pieces ..need some ideas for new print pieces. Hope to do print run by the end of the year…local clubs will be able to order online promotional materials.

Mike Schneider - Membership-distributed the membership count report for all local clubs and national members. The total membership is holding steady. Cutoff date for the membership directory will be adhered to as closely as possible. The intent is to get the 2018 membership directory in the mail by mid April. Renewal invoices will go to the mail house about November 16 or 19th. Can't control how fast they will get in the mail. Longevity awards are reported in the Marque in the year after the anniversary of the members join date in the AHCA. When contacting me please include your membership number. For the membership directors that send in checks to pay for AHCA memberships please send in just a few checks rather than sending in a lot of checks. We still have the limit of transactions with our bank. the website continues to dominate the new member statistics.

Gary Feldman-Healey registries… John May and Gary B helped to improve registry program-try to improve data collected…some registrars didn’t sign up with AHCA and didn’t want to send backups to Edie so they are shown as 'other' registries, the ones that agreed to sign are shown as AHCA registries…can be a good thing for finding stolen cars or tracking original owners if the current owner will cooperate. The AHCA will never use the backup copies stored with the AHCA Secretary. Only exception is if the current registrar ceases to be the registrar for whatever reason. The agreement gives the AHCA the authority to find another registrar and take over the duties. Online registration will be available soon on the AHCA website. Steve Byers is concerned about having the authority to release previous owners of a car to the current owner .

Gary F John Maas-a meeting was held in Palm Beach for the creation of the Palm Beach Austin Healey Club. This club would cover the south area of Florida and will not compete with the existing clubs in FL. There are currently a number of AHCA members currently living in the area and don’t belong to other local AHCA clubs. New club was unanimously voted in.

Carl Brown-suggested removing the sharing of conclave profits with AHCA from the host club. Motion to do this was tabled for now. It will be discussed by the conclave committee.

Gary Brierton- delegates handbook-approved to research cost to create printed books to be handed out to the delegates. Currently the handbook can be downloaded from the AHCA website in the Delegates section.

Gary F – printed report of national members in all states….interested in getting large groups of members to consider creating a regional club or nearby regional clubs to recruit national members-Steve Bell mentioned that many of the national members are not active in a local club.

Steve Bell-why aren’t more delegates attending delegates meeting-Cliff, Bev, Bob Gilleland and Steve Bell were the members on this research committee. Many variables considered such as cost, sharing a room with another delegate, time, distance etc. Steve called all clubs in question. He asked about finances, leadership, etc. For many club leaders the knowledge as to what a delegate should do was not known to them. 9 clubs indicated dormancy or little interest. 2 delegates indicated too little time. 4 clubs indicated they were not attending. 3 clubs expressed interest and wanted help from AHCA. We have 5 new delegates in attendance for this meeting. Agnetha was born April 5, 1950. Friday night during this weekend of the fall delegates meeting Gary B and Bruce Gearns held a meet and greet for the new delegates. A suggestion would be to have an active club mentor an inactive club or develop an AHCA person to assist an inactive club. A monthly phone call to the inactive clubs could spurn some activity.

Bruce-expense reimbursement policy- the assumption is that the small clubs aren’t here because the clubs can’t afford it, but after Steve called the inactive clubs only one club said they had a hard time affording the trip. Is our reimbursement policy out of date? Currently $300.00 limit on air fares without approval from the treasurer. A suggestion is to raise the allowable limit to $400.00. Anything over that would require approval from treasurer 30 days in advance. Increase officers travel allowance to $400.00. For past presidents raise limit to $400.00. I made motion and approved.

Gary F – how concour gets integrated into conclaves….the concour committee is reviewing program as there are not many cars being judged. It is a help to conclave to have concour cars as that is a draw for attendees. Concour committee is having trouble getting handle on low participation.

Gary F.-Advertising- do we bundle? How do we expand advertising? David Nock mentioned that when he puts an ad in the Marque he feels he gets some benefit. When he gives to conclave he looks at that as a donation. He is giving money to a very small group that already knows him based on ads in Marque. Bundling could include one price for an advertiser and the advertiser would get an ad in Marque, website and membership directory and facebook.

**Sunday**

Need to speed up the process for the Saturday portion of the club's reporting process. Speed up the club reports by sending in reports in advance and then get distributed ahead of the meeting to all of the delegates….how do we hold the local clubs accountable for not sending in by-laws required reporting? What can be done to get the local inactive club out of the rut of not participating…best bet is to act positively in attracting them to participate….whose job is it to contact the laggard clubs? Send out a report that a lot was accomplished, excellent rapport and networking…main complaint Steve Bell learned was that the delegates were discouraged that their club was not more active. Gary B said we have a good representation of clubs and officers and those could attend local inactive clubs…Jack White said he would be willing to buddy a local club to mentor them….area clubs could attend large car shows in the area of inactive clubs and have a meet and greet in hopes of getting the local inactive club more active…….mentoring seems to be the most mentioned solution in the near term……Damian Broccoli suggested, crawl, walk run program. Get the local clubs to start sending in reports then on to the next step…Chuck Anderson said back in the 1960’s they were having trouble keeping the Midwest going. They opened the club up to non-Healey owners and that helped swell the ranks. They also started showing racing movies on club meeting nights….we have identified at-risk clubs now….now we are hearing about past at-risk clubs that folded due to lack of interest and inactivity….Triad-Cliff Hudgins-40% of Triad is near Raleigh/Durham area. They are about 90 minutes east of the majority of Triad members -there is an effort being made to encourage the distant members to gather and get active……Eileen Wetzel-her club has a lot of members that are local only members through their recruiting efforts…most start as local only and they hope that those local only members join AHCA…David Nock suggested sending national members in your area your local clubs newsletter….lots of suggestion of help to mentor inactive local clubs from many delegates…..

Gary F...2018 is the 60th anniversary for Sprite…..should be celebrating the anniversary…..there are several events planned for celebration…one in Arkansas with the British Drivers Club and something at Elkhart Lake race course…..actual Sprite birthday is May 20, 1958…any Sprite brought to Springthing will get a free registration for Springthing. Springthing is May 18, 19 and 20, 2018 and will be held in Louisville, KY, so all were invited to Springthing.

Next location for fall delegates meeting is staying at Cambria in Plainfield, IN 11-9-2018…..

Make a list of attending delegates and pass out so new delegates will know who is speaking during the delegates meeting…..

Budget-Bev-as per paper work-budget passed as presented...club is in solid financial position

Fred Dabney-all elected officers will run again for 2018-unanimously re-elected

Honorary memberships were suggested for Bonnie & David Ayer, Hillary Cooper and Ed Reiss and Vince Barnell for their work on Conclave 2017.

Jo/Jim Switzer for delegates meetings……and Dick Storrs for his years of providing tours on Friday before delegate meeting starts. All unanimously accepted.

BMTA-British Motor Trade Association-group that gather to share info in industry such as insurance company, some car clubs, restoration shops, parts suppliers, automotive artistry……There is some interest in the AHCA join…fee is $150.00/annually…….Gary and Bruce will attend mid March meeting in Traverse, MI to see what it is all about and evaluate if a membership will be beneficial to the AHCA.

Motion for meeting adjournment made and accepted.

Mike Schneider

Bluegrass Delegate/Bluegrass Membership Chair/AHCA Membership Director

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