

HEALEY HIGH ROADS

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CAAHC MEMBERS AT "CALVERT FALL CRAWL" RALLYE *By Tommy Barr, Columnist*

St. Leonard, MD: Several members were rewarded for ignoring bogus weather forecasts when they attended the "Calvert Fall Crawl" rallye on November 17.

Rallyemaster Michael Oritt also invited members of the Patuxent Vintage Foreign Car Club, based in Lexington Park, MD. to participate, and a total of 12 cars ran the 60-mile course. Joe Maestri, Don Margeson, Frank Pirhalla, Dick Dougherty and Mary Oritt (the last two in their Healeys) drove the 60-mile route while observant navigators read road instructions, searched for clues and filled out answer sheets.

At 10:00 AM the event began, the sun emerged, and participants got to enjoy the last of Southern Maryland's spectacular Fall Foli-

age as they travelled Calvert County's back roads and made their ways along the Western Shore of Chesapeake Bay.

Miraculously, no one got lost, no breakdowns occurred and all participants made it to the rallye's end at the Oritts' home, where lunch was served. While everyone enjoyed Mary's Smoky Pumpkin Chowder and assorted sandwiches the rallyemaster carefully examined the answer sheets and tallies. Some of the more *imaginative* answers came from Club members, but the PVFCC "techies" proved to be more observant, and swept the first five places, garnering tins of fine chocolates for their efforts in lieu of the usual cups. Notwithstanding, a good time—and much fine food—was had by all.

BOWIE DINNER SEEKS MD. MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE! *By Michael Oritt, Newsletter Editor*

In order to again attract members living in the Annapolis/Baltimore areas, the December 16 and February 17 dinner meetings will be held at "Chessie's Grille" located in the Comfort Inn at routes 301 and 50. We'll gather at 7:00 PM

and enjoy the full bar and varied menu selections in a private room adjacent to the restaurant. Remember that on Saturday, January 11 we have our Annual Holiday Party and meeting to elect officers (*See separate story on page 3*).

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Your article could have been here!

EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER 16—
MONTHLY DINNER
MEETING AT CHES-
SIE'S GRILLE

JANUARY 11—
HOLIDAY PARTY AND
OFFICERS' ELECTION
AT JACK WHITE'S
HOUSE

FEBRUARY 17—
MONTHLY DINNER-
MEETING AT CHES-
SIE'S GRILLE

MAY 24 TO JUNE 1—
DRIVE YOUR BRITISH
CAR WEEK

JUNE 25 TO JULY 1—
CONCLAVE IN
TYSON'S CORNERS

Allen Feldman shares his adventure:
**MY FIFTEEN MINUTES OF
 FAME AND FORTUNE”**

It began innocently enough, when I learned that a New York City agency was looking for a white Healey to place in a Ralph Lauren photo shoot on Long Island. After calling the agent and firming up the financial arrangements I printed out driving instructions, got a haircut (You never know, they might need me to help one of the models!), and took off—Destination: Westbury, NY, about 25 miles east of NYC. I was not familiar with the area but my Map Quest printout told me that I should go over the Verazano Narrows Bridge (*That sounds scenic!*) and then onto the Long Island Expressway. The drive from my Maryland home was to take about five hours and, given that I driven to Tahoe and back earlier this summer without getting lost or breaking down, this looked to be a piece of cake!

Things first went awry when I missed the sign for the bridge and my “scenic route” took me through the industrial and chemical wastelands of upper New Jersey and into Newark Airport! (*Why were all those people yelling at me?*) After getting instructions from a merciful motorcycle driver—who of course had a Healey when he was younger—I backtracked and made it across the bridge, only to detour into some of Brooklyn’s seamier neighborhoods. Eventually, I found the “Lungisland” Expressway and arrived at my hotel about 10 hours after my departure....hmmm.

Next morning—the big day—I cleaned up the car and proceeded to Westbury Gardens for *the shoot*. This was definitely a big-ticket event, and a large tent was set up to shelter the camera crew, hairdressers and make-up personnel, and of course a seamstress complete with sewing machine and ironing board. Adjacent to

the tent was a motorhome converted into a dressing/lounging area for the models. And then there was the caterer—I was invited to breakfast, and what a spread it was: Cheerio’s were *not* served!

I learned that the photographer, Bruce Weber, is a very famous guy, and he came complete with a crew of six: One did nothing but change film in the cameras, another set up the lenses and filters, a third handed cameras to the master, two more positioned the reflectors, and “Lance” simply programmed the sound system with whatever music was appropriate for the moment. After taking some background shots of the gardens, Weber called for the placement of some of Ralph Lauren’s props—a leather purse and silk scarf appeared on my passenger seat and Bruce (he told me that I could call him Bruce) moved in for some closeups. Next, two beach chairs and an umbrella were deposited in my rear seats, and a call was made for *the model*. However, someone announced that it was time for lunch, and I was invited to have another great meal. Everyone ate except for the models who hung in the motorhome.

While I was grazing on the tofu salad and sushi, an attractive bikini-clad female emerged from the motorhome and slithered across lawn toward my car. When she had trouble opening the door I offered to help, but was bodychecked by Lance, the music programmer and told to stay at an “appropriate” distance. At this point, a male model appeared (with a French Poodle) and the three assumed various poses in, on and around my car. The shoot ended in the mid-afternoon, Bruce and crew thanked me profusely, and I returned to my hotel.

Next morning I set out for home—this time I didn’t get lost. Despite some serious traffic on I-95 I had no problems and the car performed faultlessly. I won’t see any of the photographs until the catalogue is finished, but my brief encounter with the *illuminati* (These folks get paid for this stuff, and they eat well too!) has added just one more interesting facet to Healey ownership. ***I had a blast!***

THE STORY OF BLUE-J8

By Anil Fatterpacker

I purchased my second BJ8 in March, 2002. It had been garaged for 14 years, but a professional inspection revealed that the frame and body were in excellent condition, and the car had reportedly run fine until taken off of the road. I first had the oil drained and the engine flushed and filled.

A hand-cranking revealed good compression in all cylinders. Next I replaced the fuel tank, lines and pump. I then went over the cooling system, and after replacing the hoses found it to be leak-free. Attention then turned to hydraulics, and after the cylinders and lines were dealt with all

seemed okay. I pulled and painted the wheels and replaced tires and tubes. I installed a new battery and all electrics were good. I then filled the fuel tank, and—eight months to the day from beginning this work—I fired the engine over! A 15 minute test drive revealed good oil pressure (60 psi) and water temperatures (150 degrees). Further tests pending....

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY SET FOR JANUARY 11TH AT WHITES'

The Annual Meeting and Holiday Party will be held at the home of Jack and Pam White in Fairfax, VA, beginning at 6:30 PM on Saturday, January 11th. As in past years, the Club will provide the main dishes and beverages. *Members whose last names are between A and M are asked to bring side dishes, and those between N and Z, dessert.* A nominal charge of \$5 per person will be made to defray expenses. We will also be electing officers for 2003 and any Club Member is eli-

gible to hold office (especially if they are not present to say no!) With Conclave coming up in June your willingness to do service will be important. Please join us! RSVP to Jack or Pam at (703) 652-1312 during daytime or via email to: jwhite@medmarc.com. Be sure to indicate how many will be in your party, and feel free to bring any "prospective members who may want to see what we are about!" *(It's still \$5 per head....)*

Driving directions to Jack and Pam White's house (from the Beltway):

Follow I-66 west to the exit for route 7100 (Fairfax County Parkway), exit and go south to the first traffic light and turn left onto Popes Head Road. Go 1/3 mile and turn left onto Lewisham, then go 1/10 mile and turn left onto Meath Drive. Proceed on Meath for about 1/4 mile to Popes Head View Lane—a private drive. Park on Meath Drive and walk up the lane to the first house on the right side—11570 Pope's Head View Lane. If you get lost call (703) 359-1481.

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Frank Pirhalla

I urge all members to consider serving our club in the coming year. Annual election of Officers is upon us and Conclave in June looms ever larger! Much of the work can be done from your home, with no meetings to attend! Please give freely of your time so that we can better serve our *Healey* Community.

And here's wishing you all the happiest of Holiday Seasons!

EDITOR'S CORNER

By Michael Oritt

With this issue I welcome aboard columnist Tommy Barr, who serves as a roving reporter to write about some of our Club events. In the last month I've received some articles from members and they appear in this issue. Each of you has a story to share with your fellows—take some time and write it up. And don't worry about its length or your eloquence: I'll change the facts to fit the occasion and the space available.

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