

InterMarque Monthly

Vintage Foreign Cars in the Upper Midwest

InterMarque Calendar Highlights

Details Inside!

See pages 2 & 3

August 24

Flamingo Photo Rally,
River Falls, WI

August 24-25

Mille Miglia Tour,
Prescott to LaCrosse, WI

September 7

Wheels and Wings,
Osceola, WI

October 5, 6, & 12

Fall Colour Tours
all over

June 5-8

2003

Lake Superior Vintage
Sports Car Rendezvous,
Thunder Bay, Canada

“Open Bonnet” is new feature for Monthly

During the *InterMarque* Monthly's short existence, we've reported on many vintage sports car shows here in the Upper Midwest. What has been lacking, however, is any standard for the reports.

If each event is graded in the same categories, readers will be able to compare different events. We fully realize that this requires us to note deficiencies as well as highlight. All we can say is that we're not out to get anybody and we intend to be as objective as our subjective little minds permit.

Given that, here are the categories for *Open Bonnet* coverage:

1. Attendance. One to ten points based on the number of *InterMarque*-type cars. One point for 1 to 25 cars; two points for 26 to 100 cars at a one make show or event; three points for 26 to 100 cars at a one nationality event (i.e., all British); four points for 26 to 100 cars at a full intermarque event; 5, 6, or 7 points for 101 to 500 cars at one make, one nationality, or full intermarque events; and 8, 9, or 10 points for more than 500 cars in the above categories.

2. Weather. One to five points. We know organizers can't do a lot about it, but it's still what most people remember.

3. Off-the-Bell-Curve Cars. One to five points based on how many seldom seen cars are in attendance.

4. Amenities. One to five points based on the availability and quality of food, drink, biffies, air conditioning, and anything-other-than-cars to do.

5. Vendors. One to five points based on the number and quality of vendors present. Parts, cars, and miscellaneous; new and used.

6. Cost. One to five points based on the entry fee. Five points for free events; four points for \$1 to \$5; three points for \$6 to \$25; two points for \$26 to \$100; and one point for over \$100.

7. Ambiance. One to five points based on whether the event is in a wooded glen or an urban war zone and on how hard it is to get cars in their correct position.

8. Other. One to ten points based on anything not covered elsewhere.

We're going to try the Open Bonnet system on one or two shows every month. We're open to suggestions for altering the OB and also welcome criticism and corrections of our coverage. Signed communications will be printed



Open Bonnet and other reports begin on page 4

INTERMARQUE CALENDAR

INTERMARQUE SHOWS & EVENTS

AUGUST 17 & 18

Heartland British Auto Fest 2002 Davenport, IA. Hosted by Quad City British Auto Club. Scenic drive, party, vendors, British car/bike show. Info: Naomi Swanson 309-764-1423 or Gil Taylor 309-787-5908 or Ed qcbac@mchsi.com or <http://qcbac.home.mchsi.com/autofest2002.htm>

AUGUST 24

Flamingo Photo Rally River Falls, WI. Hosted by Austin Healey. Meet at the West Wind Supper Club, 709 North Main Street in River Falls. Lunch beginning at 12:30, first car out at 2:01. The rally will finish **90 minutes** later at a restaurant in Hastings. Healeys, Jags, MGs, Triumphs, Citroens, Minis, Alfas, and other classics are encouraged to attend but daily drivers are welcome as well. Invite your friends. It's FREE! (Rain date Sunday, August 25) Contact: Tom Hazen 612-871-6111 or tom_hazen@adp.com



AUGUST 24 & 25

Mille Miglia Tour Prescott to LaCrosse, WI. Hosted by Alfa Romeo. Details are still being worked out but the hope is that this will include a dinner cruise on the steam-powered paddleboat Julie Belle Swain. Contact: Ed Solstad 612-822-0569 or esolstad@presenter.com

SEPTEMBER 7

Wheels & Wings Fest Osceola, Wisconsin. Hosted by Motorbooks International. Get there early so that your car gets counted in the first ever WWF Smackdown. Here are the attendance contests: The Spridgefire Spectacular (Midgets vs. Sprites vs. Spitfires); The T Party (Triumph TR2/3s vs. MG T-types); There'll Always Be an England (Morgans vs. big Healeys); The Roll-Up Window Race (MGB's vs. TR4/250/6's); The New Guard/Old Guard Shootout (TR7/8 vs. MGA); The Mighty Mite Massacre (Citroen 2CV's vs. old Minis vs. Morris Minors); The International Showdown (Jaguars vs. Alfas/Fiats/Ferraris); and The Etal Bowl (Saab 92/93/95/96/Sonnets vs. Volvo 444/544/122/140/1800's vs. Marcos vs. TVR vs. ??) Awards to be presented at an event selected by each club. Info: Andy Lindberg 651-292-8585 or andy lindberg@earthlink.net

SEPTEMBER 8

British Car Festival (Field Day) Palos Hills, IL. Hosted by the Chicagoland British Car Union. The 2001 event had over 780 British cars present on a rainy day. It's big, big, big! There are also some events on September 7. Contact: www.qtb.com/bcu/

SEPTEMBER 14

Photo Rally Hosted by Minnesota MG T Register. MGs only, but it doesn't have to be a T. Start at noon at ??????????. Scenic drive through Theo Wirth Parkway and the historic Minneapolis Kenwood neighborhood. This is a photo scavenger hunt where you are given a starting and ending location, driving directions, a dozen scrambled photos and some questions. Bring a navigator and a picnic lunch. Info: Carl Follstad 612-670-1056

SEPTEMBER 27-29

Lake Geneva Classic Car Rally 2002 Interlaken Resort & Country Spa, Lake Geneva, WI. Welcome party, informal car show, parade, hospitality hour, wood boat show, Yerkes Observatory open house, Eddie Cash Show, Hubcap-Runningboard dance, rally, grand car show, and flyover by biplanes and classic aircraft. Info: www.classicarrally.net

JUNE 5-8, 2003

Lake Superior Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous Thunder Bay, Canada. Hosted by the Thunder Bay Vintage Sports Car Club.

RECURRING INTERMARQUE EVENTS

British Built Cars Informal car show **every Sunday through October** 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., Sherlock's Home, Hwy. 62 & Shady Oak Road, Minnetonka. (p.s., Some non-Brit cars attend.) Contact: Sherlock's 952-931-0203. Several clubs have adopted a Sunday to bring out their members en masse.

* Lotus Owners of the North (LOON) gather on the third Sunday of the month

* Minnesota Triumphs have started to get together on the Sunday after their monthly meeting. See the *Short Take* report on page 5. Word is that the TRs have some special fun lined up for **September 15**. Be there and find out what it is.

* Does your club want to pick a Sunday to assemble? No reservations are required, just talk to your members and show up.

INTERMARQUE RACES & RALLIES

- SEPTEMBER 20 - 22** **Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival** Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI. Celebrate Austin Healey's 50th Anniversary. Enjoy fall colors and MGs, Triumphs, Elvas, Loti, Bugattis and more. Hosted by VSCDA, the Vintage Sports Driving Association. Contacts: VSCDA www.vscda.org and Road America 1-800-365-7223 & www.roadamerica.com
- SEPTEMBER 29** **MOWOG VI** Midway Stadium. Hosted by the Minnesota Autosports Club. Amateur autocross, vintage, modern, and race vehicles. Contact Dwight McCullough 763-754-7111 or www.mnautox.com
- OCTOBER 13** **MOWOG VII** Midway Stadium. Hosted by the Minnesota Autosports Club. Amateur autocross, vintage, modern, and race vehicles. Contact Dwight McCullough 763-754-7111 or www.mnautox.com

MARQUE NATIONALS

- SEPTEMBER 7 - 8** **AMGBA National Meet** Palo Alto, California. Info: www.mgclub.org
- SEPTEMBER 20 - 22** **LOG 22** Lotus Owners Gathering, **Lake Geneva, Wisconsin** Info: www.lotuscarclub.org

FALL COLOR TOURS

- OCTOBER 5** **Minnesota MG Group** Meet ????????
- OCTOBER 6** **Minnesota MG T Register** Drive starts at 12:30 sharp. Meet in Lakeville, next to the Perkins in the Wells Fargo lot at I-35 and Highway 50, exit 85. 110 miles on all blacktop roads; three hours driving time. One hour stop in St. Peter. Arrival in Chaska at 4:30. Info: Bill and Sylvia Douglas, 952-898-1399
- OCTOBER 6** **Minnesota Minis** Meet ????????. Drive ends at Sherlock's Home.
- OCTOBER 12** **Minnesota Austin-Healey Club** Meet ????????. Info: Greg & Nancy Lauser
- OCTOBER 13** **????????? ??????????**

REGULAR CLUB EVENTS

- Lotus Owners of the North (LOON)** Informal gathering, third Sunday of the month at Sherlock's Home BBC event (see previous page). Info: Terry Pitts ADDRESS
- Minnesota Austin-Healey Club** Pie With the President, first Wednesday of the month (except Dec.), 7:00 p.m. Bakers' Square, Highland Village, St. Paul. Info: Dan Wolters 651-488-3468 dan.wolters@goodrich.com or www.mnhealey.com
- Minnesota MG T Register** MG Luncheons, every Tuesday, 11:15 a.m. Frenchman's, 1400 E. 66th Street, Richfield. Info: Bob Figenskau 952-935-7909 or www.mnmgr.com
- Minnesota Triumphs** Monthly Meeting, second Thursday of the month (except Nov. & Dec.), 7:00 p.m., Fort Snelling Officers Club. Info: Pat Holt 612-331-5378 or clubs.bemmings.com/mntriumphs/



*Open
Bonnet
Report*

Ellingson's British Car Show & Swap Meet

**August 10, hosted by the
Minnesota MG Group**

1. Attendance. (3 points) About 90 cars appeared for this all British event. MGs were the most numerous, but there were also nice showings by Triumphs and Minis and an above average number of Jaguars. Two cars from North Dakota attended, a Triumph TR3A and an MG Magnette.

2. Weather. (4 points) There were thunderstorms at 4:00 a.m., but the last clouds had fled into Wisconsin by the time the show opened. Temps in the 80's and sunny skies probably kept everybody but hardtop drivers happy.

3. Off-the-Bell-Curve Cars. (2 points) How often do you see a Mercury Capri these days? Two of these 70's imports were present, not in the best of condition but running nonetheless. And how about a Honda 600, conceived long before the Civic was a gleam in Papa Honda's eye? There was also an elegantly

chubby Jaguar Mark IX (?) and a very nice selection of Morris Minors, one of whose owners wants to start a Twin Cities club for the little cuties.

4. Amenities. (3 points) Attendees could run into Ellingson's to use the facilities or grab some food or get cooled off. There wasn't much to do, however, other than look at more cars.

5. Vendors. (3 points) About ten vendors were present, all selling used wares except for the one fellow selling new Corbeau seats. (Very comfortable, especially after spending an hour or two walking around the event.) Most vendors had reasonable price expectations although a few had spent too much time on eBay.

6. Cost. (4 points) What a bargain! A \$2.00 entry fee. Organizers gave credit to Ellingson's for being able to keep the price down.

7. Ambiance. (2 points) Only the self-declared "senior" cars had to park on blacktop; the rest of us were in a nice grassy area, close to the vendors. The Minis even found some shade, and



Some of the Gymkhana 2002 cars
(the Triumph cycle did not compete)

the officials were efficient but not officious.

8. Other. (3 points) The prize to attendee ratio was high so a lot of people went home with trophies. The Mini-Sota Minis, Pizza Eating, and Psychiatric Self-Help Assn celebrated their third birthday with a cake.

All in all, this was a very nice event with a good mix of cars and vendors. If you didn't attend, you should put it on your schedule for 2003.

Gymkhana 2002

**July 27, hosted by the
Minnesota Austin-Healey
Club**

Although the Austin-Healey Club opened this event to other marques, only two non-Healeys had the gumption to challenge the hosts on their home turf, the Brown & Bigelow parking lot in St. Paul. The two non-Healeys were an MG Midget (very, very similar to an AH Sprite) and a Jaguar XK-150 (very, very difficult to coax around a tight parking lot course).

With about a dozen Healeys on hand, everybody got in as many runs as the wanted. This was good, especially for the first-timers since it takes awhile to get a feel for what's going on out there in the cones. Fastest time of the day was set by Tom Hazen in his Sprite. The rain held off until the course was disassembled, lunch consumed, and most (but not all) cars had reached the safety of their garages.



Open
Bonnet
Report

VTR National Convention

July 16-19, hosted by Minnesota Triumphs

1. Attendance. (6 points) This was a national one-make event. (VTR stands for Vintage Triumph Register.) About 250 Triumphs arrived at Treasure Island Casino in Red Wing, some from as far away as California. July 18 was InterMarque Day but very few other marques showed.

2. Weather. (2 points) It didn't rain much, but it was hot and humid all the time.

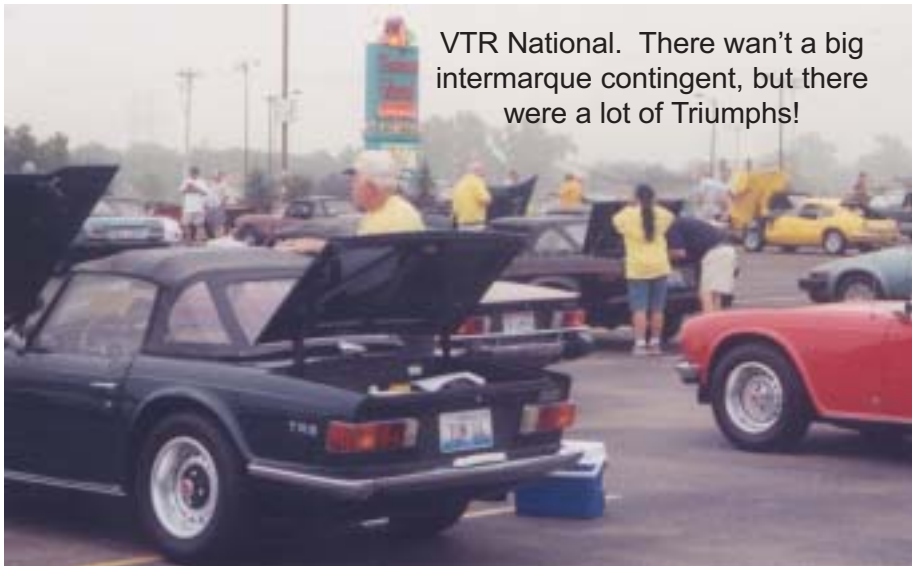
3. Off-the-Bell-Curve Cars. (1 point) There were two Heralds, and one each Vitesse, Sports Six, 1800 Roadster, and Renown.

4. Amenities. (4 points) Lots of biffies and there was food and drink aplenty within the air-conditioned Treasure Island facility, which also offered all kinds of gambling. It was, unfortunately, a long drive once you overdosed on the casino restaurants and tired of losing money on the slots.

5. Vendors. (3 points) The Roadster Factory had a nice selection of new parts and Moss, Rimmer Bros., and Ted Schumacher made an appearance. There were a few swappers outside and a couple people bought reasonably priced TR3's.

6. Cost. (2 points) You could register for under \$100, not bad for a multi-day national. The hotel was also a reasonable \$65-85/night. But still, when all was said and done, it likely required a choice between this and any other annual vacation.

7. Ambiance. (4 points) All attendees got to park in a patrolled, grassy area near a small lake. The autocross, funkhana, and concours were also on site.



VTR National. There wasn't a big intermarque contingent, but there were a lot of Triumphs!

8. Other. (6 points) The awards program set a new standard. The food was the usual so-so banquet fare but the show, WOW! Have you ever suffered through boring after-dinner speeches or interminable awards presentations? If so, you should have been there to see how it can be done. Jim Pratt (MNTR member and professional ventriloquist/comedian) kept the show moving and the audience in stitches.

In another important area, Ernie West (Dead Lake Motors), John Kallaus (MNTR), and other volunteers performed field surgery on any number of cars. Thanks to their ministrations, if they got to Red Wing on their own power, that's how they left.

All in all, it was a very good national. Not as many cars as last year's MG convention (over 1,000!) and not in as exotic a location as last year's Healey (Sugar Lake Lodge in Grand Rapids) national, but still one of the better events around.

Next year the Triumph national moves to Pennsylvania and the home grounds of The Roadster Factory. VTR President Vern Brannon hopes to bring together some of the other national Triumph Clubs and make it a joint event.



Sherlock's on August 11

Short Take -- Sherlock's

August 11

At their monthly meeting on August 8 and later on their e-mail list, Minnesota Triumphs members announced that the club would be represented at Sherlock's

BBC on the 11th. It seemed to have worked because there were more Triumphs present than ever before.

The semi-official count was 11 Triumphs, 8 MGs, 5 Jaguars, 3 new Minis, 2 each old Minis and Lotuses, and one each Alfa, Jensen Interceptor, Ford Cortina, and Austin-Healey 3000.

Quote of the Month



Pat Kessler at the Vintage Triumph Register convention in Red Wing: "It takes a sense of humor to drive a Herald." And a red rubber nose doesn't hurt either.

Want Ads

Want to sell something? Or trying to find that elusive part? Classified ads (with or without picture) are \$5/appearance. Contact us for display rates.

Small Print

InterMarque Monthly is published monthly by Vintage Enterprises (andylinberg@earthlink.net). Some information comes from the Twin Cities Inter Marque Council of Vintage Sports Car Clubs but IMM is not affiliated with that organization. IMM is intended to provide news to owners of vintage cars (of all makes and models), not to compete with any club's newsletters, web sites, or other communication device.

Reproduction in any form (other than forwarding via e-mail to friends) without permission is strictly prohibited. If you want to use something just ask. We're easy.

Editorial contributions are sincerely invited. Just send them to the e-mail address above.

Address changes: Please send your new e-mail address to the e-mail address above.

Tempest in a Teapot. Organizers of the famous London to Brighton Run (not to be confused with the New London to New Brighton run in Minnesota) this year changed the rules to permit cars built up to December 31, 1906.

Supporters of the old standard, up to December 31, 1904, were outraged that some Edwardian cars would be permitted to run. They were so mad that they began planning their own tour, to be called the Red Flag Run. (The London to Brighton Run commemorates the end of the British law that required motorcars to be preceded by a man waving a red flag.)

Faced with this development, the London to Brighton organizers backed down, for this year at least. It is unclear at this point whether the two groups will come to terms or each go their separate way.

The Boston Choker? In its 1931 description of the S.S.1 coupe (the first Jaguar), Autocar labeled the choke as the "strangler." Same thing, of course but it sounds, somehow, a bit extreme.



Marque Clubs of the Upper Midwest

Citroën Car Club of Minnesota
(www.citroenmn.com)

Jaguar Club of Minnesota (952-474-8498)

Minnesota Austin-Healey Club
(www.mnhealey.com)

Minnesota MG Group
(www.mmgg.org)

Minnesota MG T Register
(www.mnmgtr.com)

Mini-Sota Minis, Pizza Eating, and Psychiatric Self-Help Assn
(www.mini-sota.com)

Minnesota Morgans
(ljmlshields@msn.com)

Minnesota Triumphs
(clubs.hemmings.com/mntriumphs/)

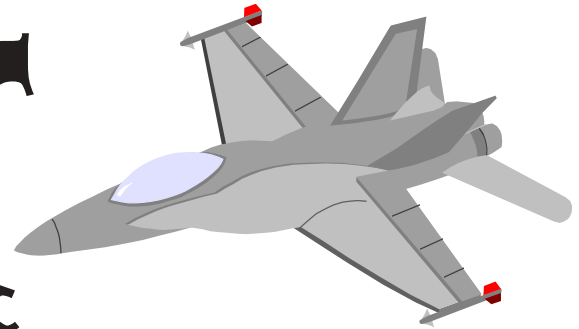
Stella del Nord Alfa Romeo Owners Club
(esolstad@presenter.com)

(Want your club listed? Submit info to andylinberg@earthlink.net. No charge.)

WHEELS



&



WINGS

FEST

WWF

Smackdown.

Inter Marque ATTENDANCE contests

Spridgefire

Spectacular

Midgets vs. Sprites vs. Spitfires

The T Party

Triumph TR2/3s vs. MG T-types

There'll Always Be an
England

Morgans vs. big Healeys

Roll-Up Window Race

MGB's vs. TR4/250/6's

New Guard/Old Guard

Shootout

TR7/8 vs. MGA

Mighty Mite Massacre

Citroen 2CV's vs. old Minis vs.
Morris Minors

The International

Showdown

Jaguars vs. Alfas/Fiats/Ferraris

The Etal Bowl

Saab 92/93/95/96/Sonnets vs.
Volvo 444/544/122/140/1800's vs.
Marcos vs. TVR vs. ??

Awards to be presented at an event selected by each club. Info: Andy Lindberg 651-292-8585 or andy@earthlink.net

Honest counters needed. Contact Andy to volunteer.

See you in
Osceola!
Sept. 7