

InterMarque Monthly

Vintage Foreign Cars in the Upper Midwest

InterMarque Calendar Highlights

Details Inside!

See pages 2 & 3

September 15

Sherlock's Shenanigans
Eden Prairie, MN

September 20-22

Elkhart Lake Vintage
Festival
Elkhart Lake, WI

September 29

Monte Carlo Rally
Menominee, WI

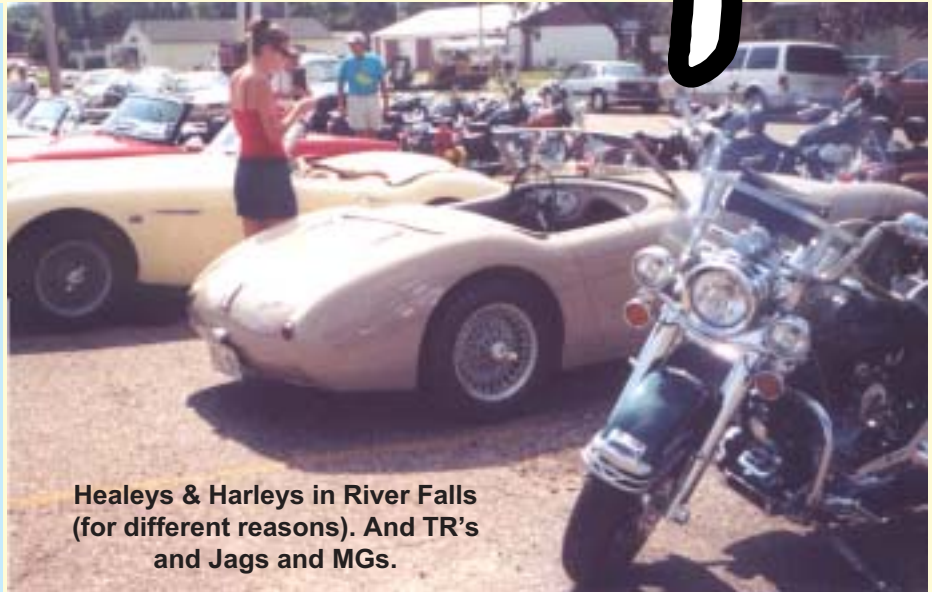
October 5, 6, & 12

Fall Colour Tours
all over

June 5-8

2003

Lake Superior Vintage
Sports Car Rendezvous,
Thunder Bay, Canada



**Healeys & Harleys in River Falls
(for different reasons). And TR's
and Jags and MGs.**

Follow that Flamingo Rally

**August 24, hosted by the
Minnesota Austin-Healey
Club**

Report by Kim Kiser (Minnesota
Triumphs club member)

Call me a sucker for pink flamingos. Ever since those pranksters from the University of Wisconsin Student Association used student fees to save thousands of the plastic pink creatures from the watery fate of a Florida hurricane by transporting them to the UW campus sometime in the late 1970s, I've had a soft-spot for the salmon colored yard-dwellers. (Years later, my roommate took in one of the winged refugees, who occupied a place of honor in a bedroom window.)

So when I saw that the Austin Healey Club was planning a flamingo photo gimmick rally from River Falls, Wis., to Red Wing, Minn., on August 24, I couldn't resist.

We met up at the West Wind Supper Club in downtown River Falls. When we arrived, the parking lot was overrun with bikers taking part in a fund-raiser for diabetes research. Our 15 vintage, foreign cars were parked inconspicuously behind the restaurant, unable to possibly compete with hogs, music and barbecued pork chops on a stick. Still, we did manage to capture a few looks and a nostalgic comment or two from folks who had once owned a British vehicle.

Rally master Tom Hazen and his sidekick Flingy the flamingo gathered us on the restaurant's patio and explained how the rally would work. We were given a packet of information: one page of trivia questions, three pages of directions and a
continued on page 4

INTERMARQUE CALENDAR

INTERMARQUE SHOWS & EVENTS

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. Show up early on **SEPTEMBER 15**. Word is that the TRs have some special fun lined up. Word also is that they don't exactly have it planned yet but that they are working on it even as we speak/type/read.

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 28 - 29

Fall Challenge Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI. Hosted by Chicago Alfa Romeo Owners Club. Info: Road America (1-800-365-7223 & www.roadamerica.com)

SEPTEMBER 29

Menominee Monte Carlo Rally Menominee, WI. Registration at 11:00 a.m. at the Best Western, just off I-94 on 25. Vehicles do not have to maintain an average speed in a Monte Carlo rally. Info: Ed Solstad (612-822-0569 or esolstad@presenter.com) or Dave Fuss (763-494-4925)

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.mnautocx.com

OCTOBER 12 - 13

Hawkeye Classic Mid-America Motorplex, Pacific Junction, IA. Hosted by VSCDA, the Vintage Sports Driving Association. Info: VSCDA www.vscda.org

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.mnautocx.com

JUNE 27 - 29, 2003

VARAC Vintage Festival Mosport Racing Facility, Mosport, Ontario, Canada. Hosted by the Vintage Automobile Racing Association of Canada. Featured marque is **Triumph**. Info: VARAC (www.varac.ca or lbmc@nexicom.net)

MARQUE NATIONALS

SEPTEMBER 20 - 22

LOG 22 Lotus Owners Gathering, **Lake Geneva, Wisconsin** Info: www.lotuscarclub.org

MAY 1 - 5, 2003

Challenge Championship 2003 Jaguar Clubs of North America. Phoenix, AZ. Hosted by the Jaguar Club of Central Arizona. Includes tour of Jaguar Cars' Arizona Test Facility. Info: www.jcna.com

JUNE 19, 2003

MG2003 North American MGB Register, St. Louis, MO. Info: www.british-cars.org.uk/kimber/namgbr

JUNE 20-22, 2003

Citroën Rendezvous Northfield, MA. Hosted by Citroën Quarterly. Info: Michael Cox (617-742-6604 or CitQ@aol.com)

JUNE 25-30, 2003

Conclave 2003: A Capital Experience Washington, DC. Hosted by the Capital Area Austin

Healey Club. Info: Gary Palsgrove (301-468-0151 or evorgslap@msn.com), Allen Feldman (mapper500@starpower.net), or capitalhealeys.org

JULY 10-13, 2003

American MGC Register Davis, WV, Blackwater Falls State Park

JULY 14, 2003

GT28 North American MGA Register Get Together, Welches, OR. Hosted by the Columbia Gorge MGA Club. Info: Pat & Kenny Snyder (360-263-4047), Mark Hadley (503-771-7576 or markhadley@aol.com), or www.british-cars.org.uk/kimber/namgar

AUGUST 6-10, 2003

Vintage Triumph Register Armagh, PA. Info: www.vtr.org

JUL 20 - AUG 18, 2004

Rolls-Royce Centennial World Tour Baltimore, MD to Monterey, CA. Hosted by the Rolls-Royce Owners Club. Celebrates "the Meeting" of Charles Rolls and Henry Royce on May 4, 1904. Info: Peter Lind (707-967-8202 or bonpete@earthlink.net) or www.rroc.org/worldtour

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 12

Minnesota Triumphs 9:00 a.m. Meet at the bandshell in downtown Hudson, WI near the river. The drive will head north from there. Info: Sean O'Brien (715-386-6609)

OCTOBER 13

Jaguars of Minnesota Meet ????????. Tour leader: Ron Nordwall

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.hemmings.com/mntriumphs/

panic kit in case we got hopelessly lost. The idea: keep it fun, simple and less than two hours in duration.

The instructions, however, weren't the typical "after you go 1.7 miles, turn according to the direction of the tulip." In this case, we were given photos with Flingy strategically perched in the foreground and pointing left or right (hence, turn left or right at the next intersection that isn't gravel or a dead end).

There were photos of Flingy standing in front of a ceramic cow, next to a road sign, in front of a VFW hall, on top of a mailbox.

Sounds easy, right? Just look for the flamingo along the side of the road. Well, not so fast. The hitch was that Flingy couldn't be all places at once, so we had to look for landmarks and imagine the flamingo in the scene (OK, it was a hot day but not hallucination-inducing hot).

Between landmarks, we had to count squiggly road, narrow bridge and other signs as well as answer questions about

places we passed (the name on the mailbox with the Christmas tree, etc.). Spelling and neatness counted, requiring even more diligence – especially on the legibility end. We were to complete this while traveling at "happy speed."

At first, it seemed like we might not get out of River Falls, but after a couple of imaginary Flingy sightings, we started



to get the hang of it. Soon, we were having contests to see who could find the squiggly road signs first, and how often we crossed One Lane Bridges.

Along the way, we passed through the towns of Trenton, Maiden Rock and Bay City. (Flingy got around.) Rally master Hazen must have spent all summer planning the

event, as he chose some of the best roads we had ever been on.

With the sun out, the temperature in the 80s, Brent wondered why only 15 cars took part in this Intermarque event. Of the vintage cars, only two were Triumphs – our TR6 and Daniel and Ann Buchen's TR8. A few other club members with dual citizenship in the Healey Club (Andy Lindberg and Gary and Barb Ronning) also participated. Brent remarked that any British car owner missing out on an event like this on such a perfect day ought to sell their vehicle. After all, motoring didn't get much better than this.

By the time we pulled into the parking lot of Marie's in Red Wing, we had driven less than 100 miles, counted something like 33 squiggly road signs, crossed over some 13 narrow bridges and enjoyed some of the best views of the Mississippi valley.

So where was Flingy during all this? Doing what party birds do best on a hot day: diving into a pink margarita somewhere in Red Wing.

Wheels & Wings

September 7, hosted by Motorbooks, Inc.



Open
Bonnet
Report

1. Attendance. (7 out of 10 points) There were, by the *InterMarque* Monthly unofficial count, 173 vintage foreign cars at this event. (We did not count the numerous muscle cars or even the Duchess kit car whose license plate said 52 MG TD.) It appeared that overall attendance was down from last year but that is only a guesstimate. MGs were the most numerous, but there were also nice showings by Triumphs, Loti, Datsuns, Minis, Citroëns, and Ferraris. See the

last page to see which cars won attendance awards in the *WWF Smackdown*.

2. Weather. (3 out of 5 points) It might have been September but the weather was more like the dog days of August. The high was in the 90's, the

humidity was right up these also, and there was no relief from the blazing sun.

3. Off-the-Bell-Curve Cars. (3 out of 5 points) There were two Amphicars, one BMW Isetta bubble car, a Marcos, a Saab 95 wagon, a Citroen Avant, an Opel GT, a Sunbeam Alpine, and three TVRs.

4. Amenities. (3 out of 5 points) There didn't seem to be more satellites, but the lines to use them were nonexistent this year. The local Lions Club also was able to handle the noon time rush for burgers and dogs with no



There were so many MG's at Osceola that they incorporated their own suburb

Ideas for 2003!!

Is it too early to celebrate the arrival of 2003? Probably so, but the InterMarque Council and vintage sports car enthusiasts are already talking about some new and different events they'd like to try next year. Here's a few ideas for you to consider:

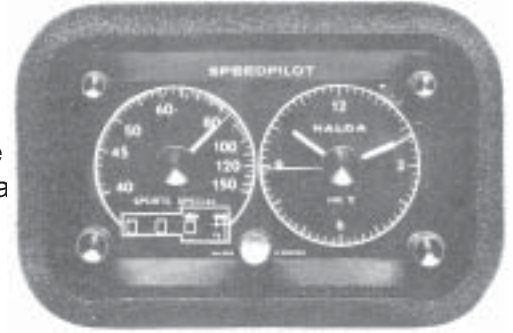
1. Lake Superior Tour. A three or four day event, starting at Duluth/Superior and going around the lake counterclockwise. The time would probably be towards the end of September in order to catch the fall colors in the north country.

2. LaCrosse Overnight. This would be a two day event, starting in the Metro Area and taking some of the nicest Wis-

consin roads down to LaCrosse and some of the best Minnesota roads back up the next day.

3. Great River Excursion Car Show. Next year St. Paul will celebrate the river with a series of events. Do we want to join in with a vintage foreign car show, perhaps on Harriet Island?

So what do you think? Would you participate? Send your views on any of these potential events to *InterMarque Monthly*. These are just ideas and your voice could make a difference on whether and how they take place. And, if you've got any other ideas, we'd sure like to hear that also.



Rally-Ho!

The InterMarque Council wants to get together a rally group consisting of members from each of the IMC clubs. Purpose of the group is to brainstorm ideas for next year's rally schedule. The aim is to increase involvement in 2003. If you have some ideas or just like to rally, please contact Ed Solstad (612-721-2868 or esolstad@presenter.com).

problem. For the non-auto types, free busses were available to the downtown celebration or out to the airport.

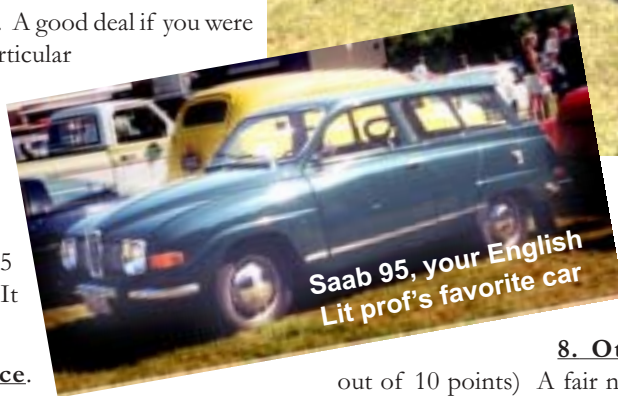
5. Vendors. (2 out of 5 points) Only one vendors was present, Classic Motorbooks, and they sold their wares all day long. Books under the tent sold at 50% off; volumes in the warehouse were discounted 15%. A good deal if you were looking for a particular tome for your library. If not, a few cars sported "For Sale" signs.

6. Cost. (5 out of 5 points) It was free!

7. Ambiance. (3 out of 5 points) By 10:00 a.m., when the star-crossed *InterMarque* staff arrived, there were no lines to enter and most marques had found a location where their vehicles could congregate. The largest exception was the Jaguar contingent. They were scattered all over the Motorbooks acreage.



Datsun Z-cars showed in impressive numbers



Saab 95, your English Lit prof's favorite car

8. Other. (2 out of 10 points) A fair number of trophies were handed out, and the "Rocking Hollywoods" performed for an audience numbering in the high single digits. Other than that, most people spent their time looking for a place to sit in the shade.

Summary. (28 out of 50 points) This is the biggest intermarque gathering in the area and it is worth attending for that reason alone. It's a great opportunity to meet old friends and see some new (old) cars.

It is also a great opportunity to pick up some very good books at very good prices, with no shipping charges. We would, however, like to see Motorbooks provide some sort of attendee involvement so that the parking lot did not empty by 1:00 p.m.



Dave Meeks, owner and driver of a Jaguar XK-150, illustrates the results of driving a car with a red leather interior on a hot and humid day. (Photo taken after the Flamingo Rally.)



How much time did you spend on the side of the road on your way to Wheels & Wings on September 7? You would have spent more if you were driving a TR3A with a twenty year-old lower radiator hose (left, Andy Lindberg) or had just bought a TVR with a gas gauge that registered half-full when the tank was empty (bottom, Bob Lee, Jr.)



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 (andy.lindberg@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.

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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.

Marque Clubs of the Upper Midwest

Citroën Car Club of Minnesota

(www.citoenmn.com)

Jaguar Club of Minnesota (952-474-8498)

Lotus Owners of the North (????)

Minnesota Austin-Healey Club

(www.mnhealey.com)

Minnesota MG Group (www.mmgg.org)

Minnesota MG T Register (www.mnmgr.com)

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

Minnesota Morgans (ljmlshields@msn.com)

Minnesota Saab Club (sites.netscape.net/paulpoore/mnsaabclub)

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

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

Vintage Sports Car Racing (www.vscr.org)

Vintage VW Club of America (763-421-2705)

Volvo Sports America Minnesota Chapter (612-789-0851)

(Clubs listed in bold are members of the InterMarque Council. Others are listed for information purposes only. Want your club listed? Submit info to andy.lindberg@earthlink.net. No charge.)

Wheels & Wings Fest Smackdown

Results of the *InterMarque* Monthly ATTENDANCE contests for Wheels & Wings, September 7, in Osceola, Wisconsin

Class 1: The Spridgefire Spectacular

These cars were once the entryway into sportscar ownership and the most commonly seen on the street. Relatively few examples seem to have survived, however, as today the Austin Healey Sprite, the Triumph Spitfire, and the MG Midget are far outnumbered by their larger stablemates.

A total of twelve Spridgefires appeared at Wheels & Wings. More than half (7) were **MG Midgets** so they walk away with the attendance contest. There were also four Sprites and only one Spitty.

Class 2: The T Party

This class was contested by the classic sidescreen, scoop-door cars, Triumph TR2s, 3s, 3As, & 3Bs and MG T As, Bs, Cs, Ds, & Fs.

Ownership of these vehicles by drivers seems to be unfortunately waning. There were only ten present on September 7 and a tie with five of each on the field.

Class 3: There'll Always Be an England

The Morgans and the big Healeys seem to personify the stiff upper lip British attitude. Maybe that lip is twitching, however, because only five made it to Osceola. The

Healeys took the award four to one.

Class 4: The Roll-Up Window Race

A lot of MGB's and TR4's, 250's, and 6's were sold and this class is where the biggest numbers of the Smackdown occurred. Forty-six vehicles arrived to duke it out but it was a short bout. There were thirty-four **octagoners** and only twelve Triumph TR4's, 250's, and 6's.

Class 5: The New Guard/Old Guard Shootout

This class pitted the controversially styled MGA (MG traditionalists were aghast when its full envelope body appeared in 1955) against the even more controversial TR7 and 8 (TR diehards are still aghast at the wedge shape that appeared in 1975).

The **wedgies**, however, seem to have come into their own as drivable collector vehicles. They humbled the MGA's with a score of nine to five.

Class 6: The Mighty Mite Massacre

This class brought together several foreign manufacturers' bread and butter cars, Citroën's 2CV, Morris's Minor, and BMC's Mini. (BMW's MINI was not counted although a



few were present.)

The **Minis** nonetheless took the class easily with eight cars versus three 2CV's and NO Minors.

Class 7: The International Showdown

This class featured Sir William Lyons' Jaguars against the pride of Italy, Ferrari, Alfa Romeo, and Fiat. The **Jags** took the contest on a close count of nine to seven. The distribution of the Italians was interesting as it was in inverse order of production numbers. There were five Ferraris, two Alfas, and one Fiat. Go figure.

Class 8: The Etal Bowl

This class was taken by the **Datsun Z/ZX** contingent with twelve cars in a very nice display. The Lotus group had nine vehicles although few were vintage. The Citroën Club had a nice showing with five DS's, one SM, and one Traction Avant. The VW group didn't appear organized but they had three bugs, one Karmann Ghia and one bus. (But no New Beetles.) Porsche had three 356 series cars and one 914. Makes with three cars included RX7, Pantera, Saab, and TVR! There were eleven other vintage foreign vehicle on hand.