

InterMarque

Monthly

Vintage Foreign Cars in the Upper Midwest

InterMarque Calendar Highlights

Details Inside!

See pages 2 & 3

October 19 & 20

Unplanned, Informal Fall
Color Tour to LaCrosse and
back

June 5-8
2003

Lake Superior Vintage
Sports Car Rendezvous,
Thunder Bay, Canada

In the Upper Midwest, the
fall color tour is the tradi-
tional end of the year's
driving season. This
month *InterMarque
Monthly* compares four
autumn drives. The article
starts on page 4.

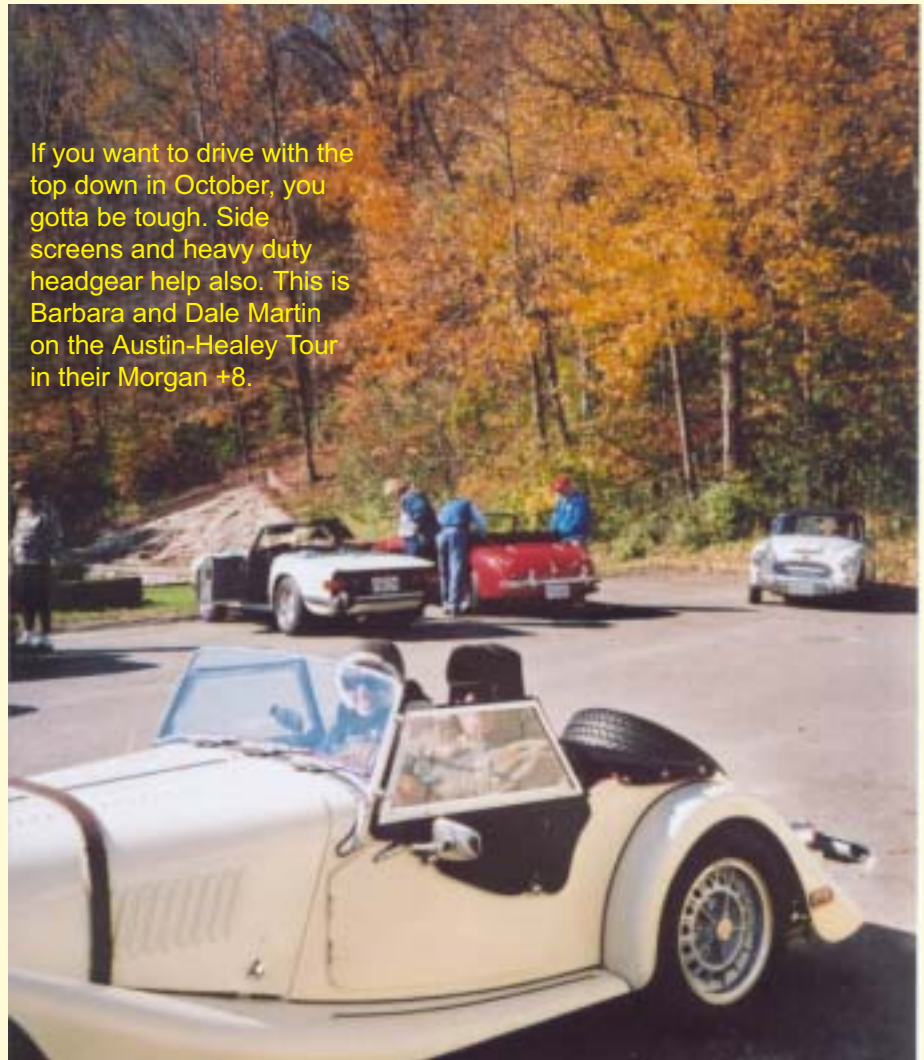
Fall Color Tours

October 5, 6, 12, and 13,
hosted by the Minnesota MG,
Mini, Triumph and Austin-
Healey Clubs



*Open
Bonnet
Report*

If you want to drive with the
top down in October, you
gotta be tough. Side
screens and heavy duty
headgear help also. This is
Barbara and Dale Martin
on the Austin-Healey Tour
in their Morgan +8.



INTERMARQUE CALENDAR

INTERMARQUE SHOWS & EVENTS

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..

INTERMARQUE RACES & RALLIES

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

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 evorgslapg@msn.com), Allen Feldman (mapper500@starpower.net), or capitalbealeys.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

SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2003

SAAB Owners' Convention Hershey, PA Hosted by the Central Pennsylvania SAAB Club. Info: www.saabconvention.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 19-20

Unplanned, Informal Fall Colour Tour Last chance this year!! And, with a couple frosts this week, it may be the best color of the year. Meet by the lift bridge in Prescott, WI at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. Down to LaCrosse on Saturday and back on Sunday. You need to find lodging in LaCrosse pronto! Info: Brent Kiser 651-490-0923 bkkiser@yahoo.com. There may also be a tour to LaCrosse and back on Saturday. It will be faster and without the long lunch stops of the two-day tour. Or maybe they just won't go all the way to LaCrosse. Who knows? Info: Greg Gelhar 763-424-6534 gmark@gosignup.com

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 651-450-0921 tlp50@earthlink.net

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 SAAB Club Monthly Meeting, first Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., the Ground Round at the Har-Mar Mall in Roseville. Info: Chris Luick 507-252-1888 or www.mnsaabclub.org

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/

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 (tlp50@earthlink.net)

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 (www.mnsaabclub.org)

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 andylinberg@earthlink.net. No charge.)

Fall Color Tours 2002

October 5, 6, 12, and 13, hosted by the Minnesota MG, Mini, Triumph & Healey Clubs

What makes a great fall color tour? The *Inter-Marque* staff consulted a number of experts and came up with a list of eight items: attendance, weather, trees turning color, top-down driving, curvy paved roads, the ability to play boy racer if you're so inclined, an appropriate departure, and, last but not least, a biffy when you need it. The *Inter-Marque* editors added the appearance of other marques because, hey, that's what this journal is all about. That out of the way, let's see how each of the clubs did this year in the nine categories.

1. Attendance. The Minnesota MG Group blew everybody else out of the water in this category. The *Inter-Marque* staff counted twenty-six vehicles present at the first biffy break. Some MG enthusiasts claim 35, but this may be the number that showed at the luncheon feed at Midwest Motor Sports. It may also include SUV's and minivans that some club members used on the tour. (These were not included in the



Inter-Marque counts for any of the tours.)

In any case, the MMGG hammered the other three groups. The Minnesota Austin-Healey Club had ten vehicles, Minnesota Triumphs had eight, and the Mini-Sota Minis had seven.

2. Weather. Despite what weather forecasters would like you to believe, the weather on any particular day is a roll of the dice. This year the prize for best weather goes to the MG and Healey clubs. Both tours sartert out chilly (42° for the MGs and 28° for the Healeys) but warmed quickly when the sun came out.

The MG folks were lucky; the Healeys moved their Saturday tour to Sunday when Odin banged his hammer to start the weekend. Sunday was great but Saturday

wasn't half bad and the Triumph crew made the most of it. Three clubs, however, were dealt a bad hand. Sunday, October 6, was a cold gully washer for the Minis, MGT's, and Jaguars.



Open
Bonnet
Report

We only covered the Minis and can attest that a hardtop has its place.

3. Color. According to one meteorologist, fall colors ran two weeks late this year. Tourists on the first weekend, October 5 and 6, had to be content with red sumac and an occassional ash eager to shed its summer responsibilities. Things improved a bit on the second weekend and the Triumph tour made the most of it by heading north. The Healeys had a more southern route and didn't see as much red and yellow. The prize for best color goes to Minnesota Triumphs.

4. Top-Down Driving. If you want to enjoy the fall colors, you've got to see them. The only way to get the real panoramic view is with the ragtop stored. In this area, the tours broke into two categories: (1) the "I'd rather be warm and dry than macho" group; and (2) the



-- Next Month --

Enthusiast of the Year Award

The *InterMarque* Monthly wants to recognize some of the people who make this avocation what it is. We're looking for your nominations for a person (or persons) who should be considered for the 2002 *InterMarque* Enthusiast of the Year Award.

Can't think of anybody to nominate? Maybe the following questions will get your brain out of neutral:

1. Who do you know that helped

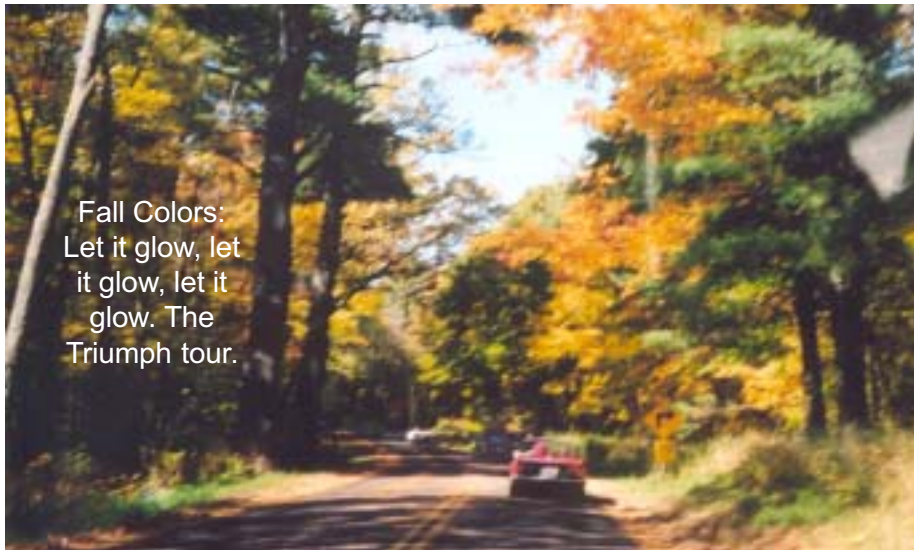
friends (and complete strangers) with their automotive problems and didn't seek compensation or awards?

2. Who do you know that actively promoted and participated in all kinds of vintage sports car events?

These questions are only suggestions. If you think some other criteria are appropriate, please use them. The award is not going to be based on the

number of nominations an individual gets (this is not a Participants' Choice Award) but the number of people who suggest an individual will certainly not be counted against that person.

Send your nominations, and the reasons for them to: *andy lindberg@earthlink.net*, 923 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul, MN 55105, or 651-292-8585.



Fall Colors:
Let it glow, let
it glow, let it
glow. The
Triumph tour.

Austin-Healeys. In category one were the Minis (0 of 7 for a 0% score), the MGs (2 out of 26 for 8%), and the Triumphs (2 out of 8 for 25%). The Healeys, on the other hand, were seven out of ten or 70%. The Healey precedent may have been set by the club's President Dan Wolters who not only didn't erect the top on his 100-4, he doesn't even own a top.

5. Curvy Paved Roads. This category was a close call between the Triumphs and the Healeys. Both had a high portion of their tour on winding roads. We're going

to give the nod to the TRs, however, because their route featured rustic byways with trees forming a complete canopy over the road. It doesn't get any better than that.

All but one club did a good job of avoiding the gravel trap. The Mini route had just a little too much of the back country motoring for those of us who are not in to ATVs.

All of the tour organizers also seemed to know their routes well, a great comfort to those of us that consider a map to be

almost as useful as a hood ornament. Except for one unplanned U-turn in the MG tour, all the events were spot-on. The tour organizers did a heck of a job getting everybody out and back. They put a lot of work into the events and it showed.

6. Boy Racer. The longer the line of cars, the harder it is to keep it moving at a speed acceptable to the Stirling Moss wannabees in the middle of the pack. This brought the MGs to the bottom of this category. Both the Minis and the Triumphs were OK, but the prize goes to the Healeys. If you like to run your engine up to redline or squeal your tires in the corners, this was the tour for you.

7. Departure Times. The Triumphs and Healeys got off at a civilized time, twenty minutes or so after their published departure. The MGs and the Minis were stricter, waiting only ten minutes to allow wayward attendees to appear. (Although we did not participate in the Jaguar tour, it should be noted that it left the starting blocks five minutes early. Not only is this poor etiquette, it's also the reason we can't report on it.)

8. Biffy Break. Everyone who has been on a fall color tour knows how

Color Tours, cont.

important that first break is. You've had thirteen cups of coffee to warm your insides and then that cold air hits you. It's enough to weaken even the most disciplined kidney. All of this year's tours broke at a gass station featuring one facility for men and one for women. This means that the Biffy Break scores are in inverse order of each tour's attendance numbers. The Minis scored highest, the Healeys and Triumphs were someplace in the middles, and the MGs were in the toilet. (Pun intended.) One unusual aspect of the MG break was that the women's line was four deep while the men's was a dozen. Ladies, you shoulda been there.

9. InterMarque. Of the 26 cars on the MG tour, two were intermarque, a TR6 and a TR7. There was one TR6 at the Mini run and an MGB at the Triumph event. The Healey outing, however, included two TR6's, a Mini, and a Morgan. They capture the intermarque award.

Summary. The Color Tour Comparo did not use the numeric scores of previous Open Bonnet Reports. So how can you tell who won? The only way is to decide what's important to you in a tour and see how the clubs scored in that area. We're not picking a winner because each of the tours was a success for different reasons.

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 *I/M/M* is not affiliated with that organization. *I/M/M* 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.

If you want people to attend, you've got to advertise. Elsie Roadknight's sign says, "Car Club is right here now." Her parents' Triumph Stag is almost visible behind her in the feeble sunlight.



The MG tour was a long parade through the Lake Wobegone area. It was fantastic to see so many enthusiasts out enjoying autumn. And the \$5 lunch at Midwest Motor Sports was one of the all-time bargains.

The Mini event included both BMC Minis and BMW MINIs (are they both beemers?) and it was great to see the new car owners as interested in the event as the old vehicle afficianados.

Riding with the Triumph was like taking a stroll through Camelot. The sun-dappled byways and lakes brought forth visions of a calmer yesteryear. Even though this idealized past probably never existed, it's nice to visit all the same.

And finally the Healeys had a rapid (but not too rapid) show that let you fantasize that you were in the Monte Carlo Rally as you came out of a corner with your foot planted on the accelerator.

So four tours and four successes. Congrats to all.

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.

For information on the following items, contact Tom at 952-937-2337:

- * Austin Mini vintage race car
- * Mini Mokes from \$2950
- * Australian Moke \$9950
- * Datsun 2000 Roadster
- * 1974 MGB
- * Bugeye Sprite
- * 1960 Moretti Coupe
- * NSU Sport Prinz
- * 1971 Cooper S, Mk3
- * Austin & Morris Minis
- * Mini van, new paint and interior
- * 1982 Mini, 33K miles
- * 1971 Jaguar XJ6, \$1500
- * Mini Ranger kit car, Moke like
- * Lotus Europa Renault engine
- * Panasport wheels for most cars
- * Mini 998 engines
- * Assorted Mini parts
- * BMW 2002 Ti engine and transmission
- * MGB engine

1973 Triumph Stag, yellow, five speed, 14K miles on rebuilt GM engine. Jim Cox 651-436-3699 Jim.Cox@taarch.com



1967 AH 3000 \$5,000. May be sold by now so if you're interested get on the phone now. Ed Solstad 612-721-2868 or esolstad@pressenter.com