

InterMarque

Vintage Foreign Cars in the Upper Midwest

Monthly

InterMarque Calendar Highlights

February 22

Lucas Flamethrower Rally,
Red Wing, MN

May 16 - 18

Donnybrooke Vintage Re-
vival, Brainerd, MN

May 18

Inter-Marque Banquet and
Car Show, Sherlock's
Home, Minnetonka, MN

June 5-8

Lake Superior Vintage
Sports Car Rendezvous,
Thunder Bay, Canada

August 9

Ellingson's British Swap
Meet and Car Show,
Rogers, MN

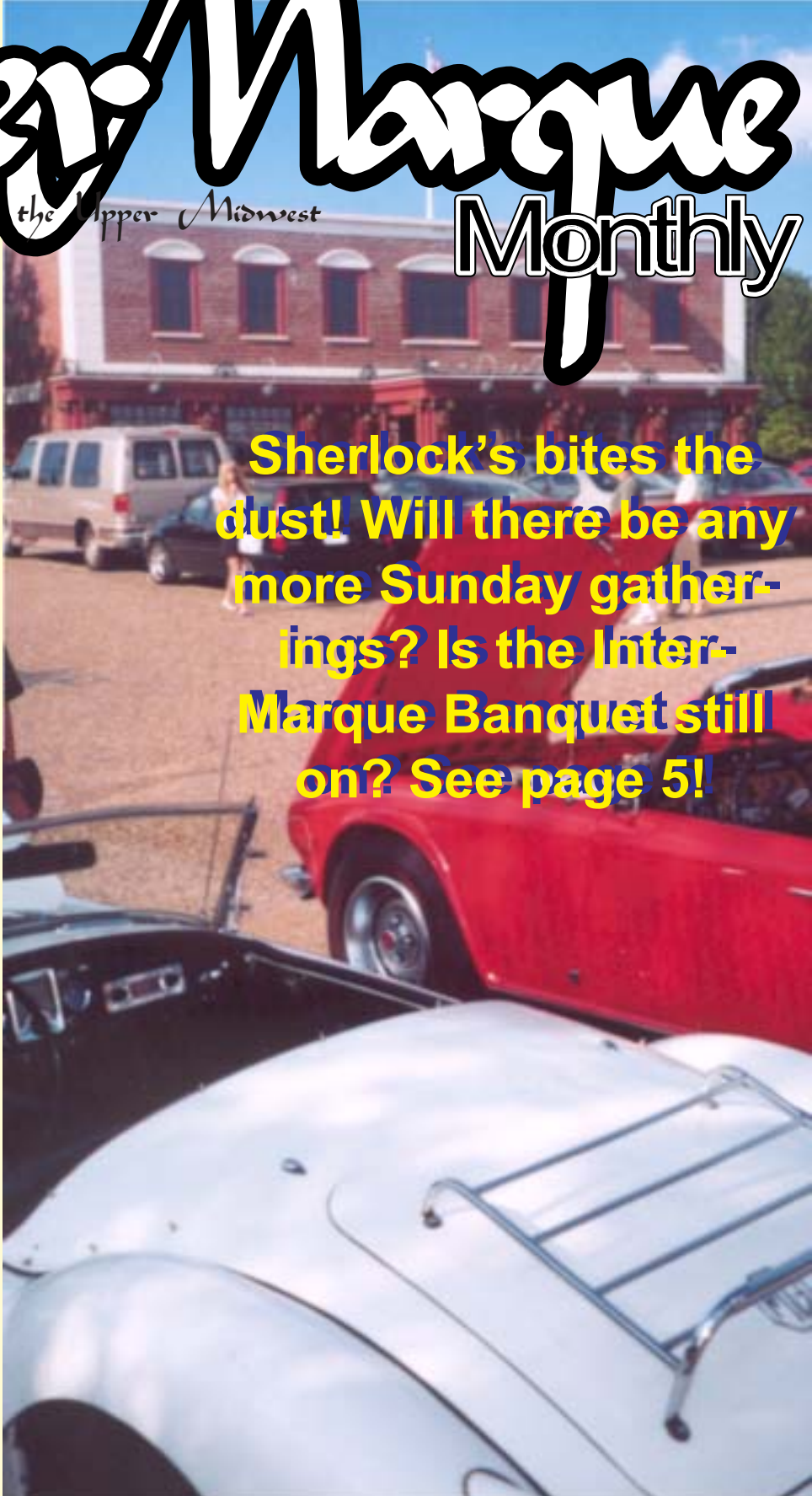
September 6

Wheels & Wings, Osceola,
WI

September 19 -21

Road America Fall Vintage
Races, Elkhart Lake, WI

Much, much more inside!
See pages 2, 3 & 4



**Sherlock's bites the
dust! Will there be any
more Sunday gather-
ings? Is the Inter-
Marque Banquet still
on? See page 5!**

INTERMARQUE CALENDAR

INTERMARQUE SHOWS & EVENTS

FEBRUARY 23

All British Swap Meet/Auto Jumble 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, Illinois. Hosted by Chicagoland MG Club. One of the biggest swap meets in the Upper Midwest. Be there early to beat the Richville Kid to all the goodies. Entrance \$5/person. Info: www.chicagolandmgclub.com/swapmeet/

MARCH 22

InterMarque Go-Kart Challenge 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ProKart Indoors, Blaine, MN. Hosted by Jaguar. Last year, five British and two German marques slugged it out for the championship. Who will bring home the trophies this year? **Make sure your club has a shot at the hardware.** And even if you don't win a prize, it's a hoot anyhow. These karts are fast! The event will be held at the same location as last year, but the track is now wider to permit more passing. The awards banquet will follow at Tasty Pizza down the street. Info: Peter Griffin pgrij888@aol.com or 612-922-3917.

MAY 16 - 18

Carlisle Import/Kit Car Show Pennsylvania. Biggest foreign car swapmeet this side of the pond.

MAY 18

InterMarque Spring Banquet and Car Show Sherlock's Home, Minnetonka, MN. Hosted by the Inter-Marque Council. More info when the Council decides where to hold the event.

MAY 24 - JUNE 1

Seventh Annual British Car Week This is the nationally celebrated week when Brit Car owners are supposed to get their cars on the road and spread awareness of them..

JUNE 5-8



"Back To The Bay" Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous 2003 Thunder Bay, Canada. Hosted by the Thunder Bay Vintage Sports Car Club. This is the 13th running of this event, which rotates from Winnipeg to Minnesota to Thunder Bay. Lodging is at the Best Western Nor'Wester. (Call 888-473-2378 and mention the Sports Car Rendezvous. Rates are \$89.00 in the Nor'Wester and \$59.00 in the Willows Annex. Prices are in Canadian dollars.) Info: Roger Rickards 807-473-4882 or miniowners@sympatico.ca or www.tbvsc.ca.

AUGUST 9

Ellingson's Swap Meet and Car Show Rogers, MN. Hosted by the Minnesota MG Group, Potential cohosts include Minnesota Triumphs (?), Minnesota Minis (?), Minnesota Austin-Healeys (?), Minnesota MGT Register (?), Jaguar Minnesota (?), and the British Iron Society (?).

SEPTEMBER 6

Wheels & Wings Osceola, WI. Hosted by Classic Motorbooks.

RECURRING INTERMARQUE EVENTS

GT Cars Open House In January, February and March, GT Cars has an open house on the first Saturday of the month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. GT Cars is just off 35W in Bloomington. Take the 94th Street exit and head east. It's about a block or two.

British Built Cars Informal car show **every Sunday MAY THROUGH OCTOBER** 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., Sherlock's Home, Hwy. 62 & Shady Oak Road, Minnetonka. See you when the snow is off the crocus. p.s., Some non-Brit cars (like Ferraris & Alfas & Citroens & Jags) sometime attend. Contact: Sherlock's 952-931-0203.

VSCR Test Days Second Saturday of the month from May through October. Minnesota Highway Safety Center near St. Cloud. Get a taste of driving a road course, improve your driving skills or test your sports car. Entrants need a helmet and seat belt, plus a rollbar for open cars. You don't have to be a racer to enjoy the fun. Instruction is available for newcomers. Info: Bill Groschen 952-746-8880 or www.vscr.org.



INTERMARQUE RACES, RALLIES, & TOURS

FEBRUARY 22

Lucas Flamethrower Rally Start/end in Red Wing, MN. Hosted by Alfa as part of the Arrowhead Sports Car Club series. Rallymaster: Ed Solstad. "Faster than your average TSD, but easier than a ClubRally." Tulip diagrams, no traps, mileage instructions, 125 miles of great roads. Requirements: snow tires on all wheels, tow strap, shovel, and safety flares. If you can help with Checkpoint Crews, contact the rallymaster. Registration: 4:15 to 5:00 p.m. at Godfather's Pizza, Pottery Place, Old West Main Street, Red Wing. For info: Rallymaster Ed Solstad 612-822-0569 or esolstad@presenter.com, or www.arrowheadsc.org.

MAY 1 - ?

Four Corners Tour Start at the State Capitol and drive to all four corners of Minnesota. Larry

Berg of the Minnesota Triumph Club is heading this voyage. It sounds like this may not be a leisurely tour so you'd better be able to keep up with a TR6 to participate. Info: Larry Berg 952-557-1949 or larryberg@coldwellbankervision.com.

MAY 3

New Glarus Hill Climb Hosted by the Wisconsin Alfa Romeo Owners Club. More info later.

MAY 16 - 18

Donnybrooke Vintage Revival Brainerd International Raceway, Brainerd, MN. Hosted by Vintage Sports Car Racing (VSCR). Make this an event for your club! Low-key weekend with spirited vintage racing. Non-racers are welcome to take a tour of the track. Attendees are invited to join VSCR at their traditional post-race party on Saturday. Accommodations are available at numerous motels and resorts in the area or camping is available at the track. The North Star BMW performance driving school will be at the track as well. Info: Rich & Liz Stadther 651-698-1981, stadther@pclink.com, or www.vscr.org.



JUNE 27 - 29

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@nexcicom.net)

JUNE 12

Mearns Rally Location TBD. Host TBD.

JUNE 21

Gymkhana 10:00 a.m. at the Brown & Bigelow parking lot, 345 Plato Blvd, St. Paul, MN. Hosted by the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club. The pylons will be set up and you can test your driving skills. Info: Steve Rixen steve@rixen.com or 715-386-2880.

JULY 25 - 27

The BRIC RoadAmerica, Elkhart Lake, WI. This is the biggie! More cars, more people, and fewer hotel rooms than at anything else on these pages. Make your motel reservations now for the 2005 event. Info: www.uscda.org and www.roadamerica.com.

JULY 26 - 27

Rally in the Valley Chippewa Falls, WI. Hosted by MMGG. Meet in Chippewa Falls, tour the Leinenkugel Brewery, participate in a poker run, have dinner, and either head for home or spend the night at the scenic AmericInn Motel in the Falls. (715-723-5711, \$90/night if you say you're with MMGG). Info Steve and Diane Rindt 715-832-8316 or sdrindt@msn.com.

AUGUST 23

Fox & Hounds Rally Location TBD. Host Austin-Healey. Info: Tom Hazen 612-237-1883 or tom_hazen@adp.com.

SEPTEMBER 13

M&M TouRally Hosted by the Minnesota Austin-Healey Club. Info soon.

SEPTEMBER 19 - 21

Elkhart Lake Fall Vintage Races Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI. Not as crowded as July's Brian Redman International Challenge and the weather is usually better also. Several intermarque convoys are going to be organized so you can go to the event with others on your own schedule, on your own favorite route, and/or at your own preferred speed. Info: www.uscda.org and www.roadamerica.com.

SEPTEMBER ??

Superior Circle Ken Smith is talking about a circumnavigation of our inland ocean. It's still in the planning stages but if you're interested, give him a ring. 952-220-0850.

OCTOBER 4

MMGG Fall Colour Tour Details later

OCTOBER 4

MAHC Fall Colour Tour Details later.

MARQUE NATIONALS & UPPER MIDWEST REGIONALS

MAY 1 - 5

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

MAY 12 - 15

SpriteSpree 03 Harrisburg, PA. The only, once every five years Sprite convention. Hosted by ??? Info: Rick Moses, 888-5SPRITE or austinhealeysprite@juno.com

JUNE 6 - 8

MOFLO 2003 Osage Beach, MO. Midwest Outing of Fiat & Lancia owners. The meeting in the middle. Info: www.mirafiori.com/~kdickson/

JUNE 19 - 23

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

MARQUE NATIONALS CONTINUED

- JUNE 20 - 22** **Citroën Rendezvous** Northfield, MA. Hosted by Citroën Quarterly. Info: Michael Cox (617-742-6604 or CitQ@aol.com)
- JUNE 25-30** **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. Local info: Greg Lauser 715-262-9813 or greg_lauser@cargill.com
- JULY 10-13** **American MGC Register** Davis, WV, Blackwater Falls State Park
- JULY 14** **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
- JULY 18 - 20** **Fiat Freak Out 2003** Asheville, NC. Hosted by the Atlanta and East Tennessee Chapter of Fiat Lancia Unlimited. Info: www.flu.org/ffo2003/
- JULY 22 - 24** **GOF Central** Delevan, WI. Hosted by the Milwaukee & Greatlakes MG Motorcar Group (MGMGMG). For MG T series cars (and earlier). Info: Kristi Mirocha 262-786-6763 or mirocha@execpc.com.
- AUGUST 6-10** **Vintage Triumph Register** Armagh, PA. Hosted by The Roadster Factory. Info: www.vtr.org
- SEPTEMBER 4-7** **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

REGULAR CLUB EVENTS

- British Iron Society** Informal gathering, every Saturday morning at CashWise in Fargo. Info: Don Carlson 701-293-6882
- Lotus Owners of the North (LOON)** Informal gathering, third Sunday of the month at Sherlock's Home. Info: Terry Pitts 651-450-0921 tlp50@earthlink.net
- Minnesota Austin-Healey Club** Pie With the President, first Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. Bakers' Square, Highland Village, St. Paul. (But in February they'll be downtown Mpls at Brits.) Info: Tom Hazen 612-237-1883 tom_hazen@adp.com or www.mnbealey.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.mnmgtf.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: Bob Lee 715-425-2580 or clubs.bemmings.com/mntriumphs/
- Stella del Nord chapter Alfa Romeo Owners Club** Monthly Gathering, second Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m. Various locations. February is at Town Hall Brew Pub, Seven Corners, Minneapolis. Info: Ed Solstad 612-822-0569 or esolstad@presenter.com.

Tech Tip of the Month

Looking for something short of plastic explosives to loosen those rusty bolts? A lot of folks recommend Kroil but you can't find it on the shelf in your friendly local auto parts store. Try driving over to your GM dealer. Walk up to the parts counter and ask for #1052627, rust preventitive and inhibitor. It's supposed to work miracles.



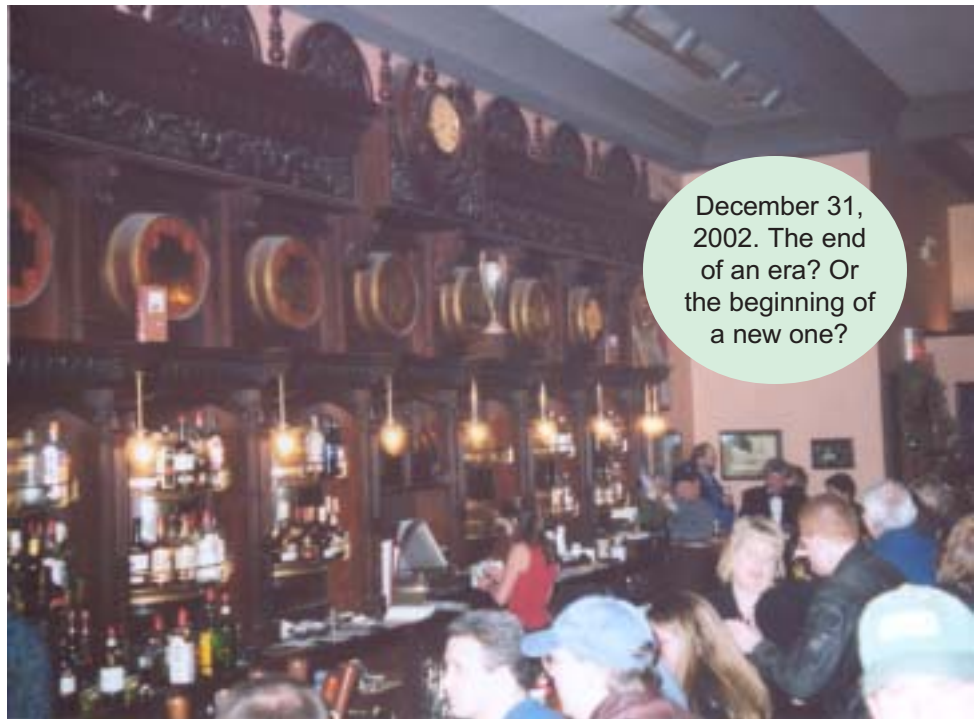
Sherlock's Home Shuttters Its Doors

December 31, 2002

In the last couple years, Sherlock's Home became famous as a Sunday afternoon imported car gathering place.

American iron had North St. Paul, downtown St. Paul and who knows how many other spots.

Sherlock's owner Bill Burdick, however, realized he could boost business by catering to the vintage import crowd. He promoted a weekly event called BBC or British Built Cars. It was held every Sunday afternoon and Bill was smart enough not to turn away the occasional



December 31, 2002. The end of an era? Or the beginning of a new one?

Ferrari, Fiat, Citroën, Porsche, Vespa, or Alfa that also made an appearance.

It was a mutually advantageous arrangement, Bill got some extra business at a slow time of the week and we got an informal meeting place. (A pint of bitters also had its appeal on some Sundays.)

Bill also acted as de facto host for last year's Inter-Marque Spring Banquet and Car Show. He let us use the parking lot for the show and didn't insist on a minimum for the use of his dining room for the banquet.

Now Bill has sold Sherlock's, hops, stock, and brewry equipment. He isn't yet saying who the new owner is, but speculation runs wild.

Time to Scratch the Inter-Marque Banquet Off Your Calendars?

Put down your pencil and pocket your Palm Pilot. There's life in those SU carbs yet.

The Inter-Marque Council met January 11 to discuss the situation. Their con-

clusion, based on conversations with Sherlock's owner Bill Burdick and others, is that the pub/restaurant will likely rise from the figurative ashes. There will likely be a new name but the venue will still be friendly to British and Continental vintage cars.

Will that phoenix-like arising occur in time for the Spring Banquet? After a long period of discussion, the Council decided that question could be answered with a definite maybe. That implies, of course, that it also may not. Maybe.

So Plan B work is now underway. The first phase of this effort is to identify alternate locations. One suggestion has been the Fort Snelling Officers Club. It has hosted previous Inter-Marque Banquets, there's scenic parking on the hill, and it's centrally located. Negatives include a so/so menu and the requirements for pre-payment and a guaranteed minimum.

What do you think? Are there other locations that should be considered? Different formats? Or should we just forget the whole thing?

We're anxious to hear from you. Give your club's inter-marque rep an earful or send your ideas to this newsletter.

See you in the spring.

Sherlock's Rumors

After redecoration/reconstruction, Sherlock's will re-open as:

- a Walgreens Drug Store.
- a new Barnes & Noble bookpub
- a Greek Taberna owned by Nicklow's (who just lost their building due to construction on Hwy 100)
- a Chumpps sports bar featuring cricket matches on 26 big screen TVs
- a Granite City Brewpub based on the ones in St. Cloud and Fargo
- a Starbucks Brewpub featuring latte lager
- a new British/Irish Pub with the same Sunday afternoon car events.

GT Cars Open House

January 4, 2003

January 4 was an icy-dicy day. SUVs littered freeway medians as their drivers learned that four wheel drive will get you out of the driveway but it won't prevent a spin-out. C'est la vie. A nice crew gathered at GTCars for the first of their three open houses this year.

Since last year, John Natole and his crew did a complete remake of the facility. You now enter through the front door and (some of) the

parts selection is right before your eyes.



The major attractions at GT Cars are, however, in the back. As

usual, the work area (you almost hate to call it a garage) was filled with interesting vehicles.

There was a Lamborghini Countach with its doors raised as if saluting the visitors. The marvelous complexity of its 12-cylinder engine was disassembled on a bench and its

rear tires were wider than my Sprite's engine is long.



There were other cars as well:

* An older post-war Rolls (hood ornament far above)



* A Jaguar XJ6C (coupe with a vinyl roof)

* A newish Bentley that seemed to drip money, and

* A ground-thumping Jensen Interceptor shown to the left. Its 440 Chrysler V8 is not standard fare at GT Cars but this car should embarrass a few street rodders once its snake pit wiring harness is straightened out.

GT Cars' next Open House is February 1. They're in

Bloomington, just to the east of 35W on 94th Street. Come early if you're a doughnut fan. Just make sure to arrive if you're an exotic car fan.



* A pre-Jaguar Daimler (that everyone, yours truly included, had to find the trunk nameplate to identify

* A Lotus Esprit

Will Alfa Return to the U.S. Market?



Italian auto workers protest layoffs

Alfa Romeo workers march through downtown Milan, Italy, Dec 12, protesting the ailing automaker's plans to lay off more than 11,000 people, possibly leading to the closure of the Alfa Romeo plant in Arese, Italy's government authorized a first round of massive layoffs.

Maybe, but the picture above sure doesn't make it look promising. (Our thanks to the *People's Weekly World* for this news nugget.)

The Biggest PROBLEMS With Our HOBBY Today

1. Too many cars **locked away** in pole barns, **NEVER** to be driven unless their owner dies and his will says one of them gets to lead the **FUNERAL** procession



2. Too many cars **rusting away** while their owners B.S. about restoration **projects** or making **\$100K** on ebay.

3. **AND NOT ENOUGH FUN!!**

GET IT ON THE ROAD OR GIVE IT TO A KID WHO WILL.



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EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS are sincerely invited. Send them to the e-mail address above.

Marque Clubs of the Upper Midwest

**British Iron Society of Greater
Fargo** (701-293-6882)

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

Jaguar Club of Minnesota (952-
220-0850)

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)

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Minnesota SAAB Club
(www.mnsaabclub.org)

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

**Stella del Nord Alfa Romeo
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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 andylindberg@earthlink.net. No charge.)

What to Expect in Upcoming Issues of the InterMarque Monthly

During the first year of *IMM*'s existence, we concentrated on getting it out on time and increasing its coverage. In addition, we introduced the Open Bonnet reports to provide an objective look at regional vintage events.

One of our goals for 2003 is to expand the use of the Open Bonnet concept:

First, to use consistent standards to report on local or regional vintage car clubs. What should those standards be? Number of members, number of events, member

participation? We don't know. Yet.

Second, to report on specific vintage foreign cars with some consistent standards. This one is a little way off too. Not only do we need the standards but we need a way to insure consistent reports.

A final goal for the coming year is to expand *IMM*'s readership.

We can't say right now how likely it is that these goals will be reached. We need help. Ideas are appreciated, volunteers are welcomed. Thanks for everything. See you soon.