

# Minnesota MG Group Gazette

Monthly Newsletter of the Minnesota MG Group

May 1994

## MINGGIFLOGOM

Dave Stovall

Guess the headline win a prize.

For those of you who don't know, the May and June events have been flip-flopped.

Due to some scheduling conflicts at the Planes of Fame Museum at Flying Cloud Airport, we are switching that event to June.

John and Cindy Eaton invite you to cruise some twisting made for MG driving, paved roads in southern Minnesota on the way to the historic Anderson House in Wabasha for lunch.

We will meet in the PDQ parking lot at the 494/ Hwy. 52/Robert Street intersection exit 67,

**10AM Saturday May 21**

From there we will take off at 10:30 and head south on Highway 52, then to Highway 60 to the Anderson House in Wabasha. We should arrive in Wabasha around 1:00pm for lunch. We can order off the menu.

Please R.S.V.P. John & Cindy at 612-891-1897, if no one is home please leave a message.

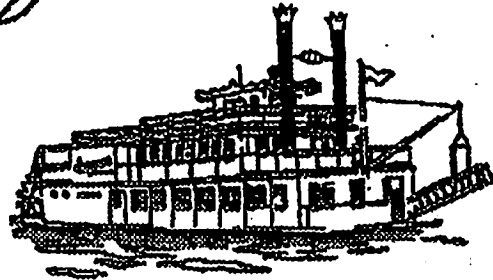
Hope to see you there!

PDQ PARKING LOT

HWY 3/ROBERT ST.

HWY. 494

CRUISING DOWN THE RIVER



## CRUISING DOWN THE RIVER

Join hosts Al & Helen Schultz for this first time event: An afternoon Dinner Cruise on the beautiful St. Croix River aboard the Paddle Wheeler Andiamo. Entertainment provided by "The Emperors of Jazz" Dixieland Jazz Band.

Although this event is several months away we need to confirm reservations by JUNE 15TH!

Adults... \$15.95

Kids 5-10... \$12.95

Kids 5 & under free

**SUNDAY  
AUGUST 14  
1:30PM -  
4:00PM**

Send Al & Helen a check today and let them know how many adults and how many kids 6 and older will be attending this fun filled cruise and dinner.

AL & HELEN SCHULTZ  
2700 SO. SHORE BLVD.  
WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110  
(612) 429-5745.

More details to follow in upcoming Gazettes.-Ed.



**1994 MINNESOTA MG GROUP  
DIRECTORY**

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Dave Stovall 894-4203

**Newsletter Publishing**  
John & Cindy Eaton 891-1897

**Photo Album**  
Randy Byboth 777-3748

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS &  
ADS**

**PLEASE CONTACT:**  
DAVE STOVALL  
155 BIRNAMWOOD DR.  
BURNSVILLE, MN 55337  
PHONE: (612) 894-4203  
FAX: (612) 645-6668

**MEMBER APPLICATION &  
RENEWAL**

Membership dues are \$20 per member/family per year. Includes 1 year subscription to the MMGG Gazette.

Send \$20 check payable to:  
Alan Kelsey - MMGG  
15942 Harmony Way Court  
Apple Valley, MN 55124  
(612) 891-3452

*Unless otherwise noted, opinions expressed in the MMGG Gazette are those of the authors and do not reflect official policies or opinions of the Minnesota MG Group.*



**MINNESOTA MG GROUP 1994 MEMBER APPLICATION / RENEWAL**

NAME		SPOUSE	
HOME PHONE		WORK PHONE	
ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IS JUST \$20.00**

CAR 1	YEAR	COLOR
CAR 2	YEAR	COLOR
CAR 3	YEAR	COLOR

**Make Check Payable To:**

Minnesota MG Group

**Mail Check To:**

Alan Kelsey  
15942 Harmony Way Court  
Apple Valley MN 55124

**DUES ARE DUE  
DUES ARE DUE  
DUES ARE DUE**

Have you heard? Dues are due. If you weren't fortunate enough to attend the planning meeting, or missed out on the Holiday Party and dinner following, it's 1994, and more that likely your club dues are due!

See the form above this article? Fill it out send Al Kelsey a check for \$20 and have one less thing to worry about this year.

Hey, Al's address is just to the left of this sentence so you can't use the excuse I did one year and say you didn't know where to send in your money. (Ed.)



**Cruisin'  
The  
Capital**

MG '94, "Cruisin' The Capital" is the 3rd Annual North American MGB Register's National Convention, to be held in Washington, D.C. .

I would love to see a group of Minnesota MG'ers attend the convention. So far the Madsen's and the Henle's are attending.

If anyone has any thoughts at all of going, or has any questions, I would be very happy to talk to you. W(507) 537-1551 H(507) 532-6425.

Safety Fast!  
Larry Henle

Are you running out of space to store those important things?



Call Me!  
Alan Kelsey  
891-7692



"A Family Tradition Since 1955"

# Around The Bend

Upcoming events around the Twin Cities and the nation! MMGG events are shown in **BOLD** text. Please check with host of event for any scheduling/meeting changes.

## May

May 13-15 - Import & Replicar Show & Flea Market, Carlisle, PA (717) 243-7855.

May 21 - All British car Show, Ardmore Park, Sparks NV. Reno MG Club. (702) 826-0825.

- John & Cindy Eaton host a drive and dinner in and around the Wabasha area. (Film location for "Grumpy Old Men.")

May 27-29 - Champagne British Car Festival, Urbana, IL. Rick Ingram (217) 366-5428.

## June

June 5 - University Motors Early Summer Picnic, Grand Rapids, MI. (616) 245-2141.

June 10 - 5th Annual Heartland MG Regional Car Show, Independence, MO. Larry or Kathy Dickstein (816) 356-6053.

June 16-19 - Moss Motors British Car Festival, Buellton, CA. (800) 235-6954.

- Flying Cloud Air Museum Tour & Drive, hosted by Jim & Joleen Lymburn. (Maybe we'll see the planes this year John)

June 23-26 - North American MGB Register Annual Convention, Washington, DC. The Madson's and Henle's have already made reservations, give one of them a call to join them on this fun filled trip to our nations capitol.

June 22-26 - GOF Mk 58, Syracuse NY. The TD Challenge; The search for the best TD in the WORLD! The New England MG T Register.

June 23-26 - MG '94, Dulles Airport Marriott Hotel, Washington, DC. MGCC Larry Berger (301) 428-0264.

June 24-26 - SVRA. MG is the featured car at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. Barbara Trueman (614) 876-3203.

May 1994

## July

July 6-9 - GOF Central, Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR. Richard Holmes (918) 627-4400.

July 14-31 - MG Stampede. The trip begins at Calgary in Alberta, goes over the Rockies to Vancouver, and ends in Seattle. Spaces for A,B,C, and Midgets in addition to the T types and vintage MG's. The New England MG T Register, (607) 432-6835.

July 17 - Enjoy a beautiful drive down to Red Wing for "River Days." Join hosts Dan & Jeanette Shidla, and Mike & Pam Funck for this first time event.

July 21-24 - GT 19, NAMGAR (North American MGA Register) Annual Get-Together. Winston-Salem, NC. Pieter Korvink (704) 846-6606.

## August

Aug 3-7 - Vintage Triumph Register Convention, Asheville, NC.

Aug 5-7 - Third Annual Southeastern MG Festival, Belleview Midco Resort Hotel, Clearwater FL. Bruce Rauch (813) 576-9474.

Aug. 14 Join hosts Al & Helen Shultz for this new event! An afternoon Dinner Buffet Cruise on the beautiful St. Croix River aboard the Paddle wheeler Andiamo.

Aug. 12-14 - MGC Register's CBA, MKXIV, Toronto, Canada. Keith Holdsworth (416) 889-4028.

Aug. 18-21 - University Motors 18th Annual MG Summer Party. John Twist, Grand Rapids, MI (616) 245-2141. (Rumor has it the Kelsey's are planning another trip to Michigan this summer wanna tag along? You' won't see more MG's in one place till 1996)!

## September

Sept. 8-10 - GOF Mk 59, Trumbull, CT, New England MG T Register. (607) 432-6835.

Sept. 10 - Wheels & Wings, Osceola, WI. Cars, Books, Planes, Trains, Tractors, Arts & Crafts, and hopefully better weather than last year! The MMGG won 2nd place for best participation by a car

club in 1993, let's see if we can make a first place showing this year. Hosted by Randy Byboth.

Sept. 17 - Moss Motors "Fall Classic" All British Meet, Goleta, CA. (800) 236-6954.

## October

Oct. 5-8 - Hershey, PA, AACA Flea Market & Show.

Oct. 9 - Fall Colors Tour. Join us for the true beauty of Minnesota in the Fall. Hosted by The Stovall's & Wilkins.

## MMGG

### Marketplace

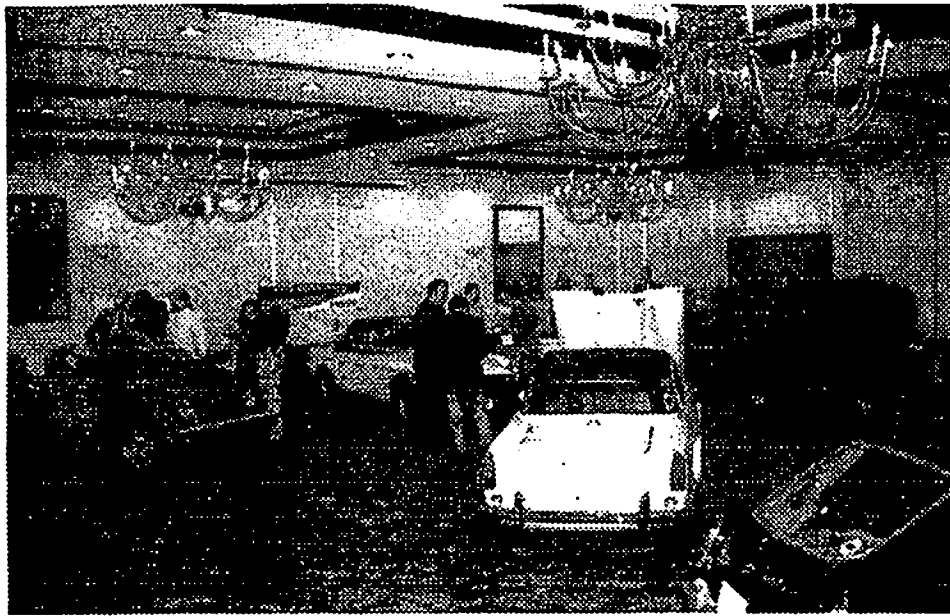
FOR SALE - 1969 MGB. New motor, rest of the car in good shape. Also parting out 72 MGB-GT, and 70 MGB. Parts must be sold. Neil Behnke. 507-462-3521.mjj.

FOR SALE - Two sets of 1971 MGB spoke wheel suspension systems with wheels and one MGB transmission. John Wold 439-6714.amj.

Wanted - Factory option chrome luggage rack in good condition for 1977 MGB. Al Schultz (not Schmidt) 429-5745amj.

FOR SALE - 1974 chrome bumper Midget. 58,000 miles. Less than 2500 miles on rebuilt engine, front suspension, transmission, brakes, and clutch. Needs very little. Runs great. BRG, autumn leaf interior. Rostyle wheels. Have new interior panel kit still in box. Many used parts also. \$5500 FIRM. Dave Stovall 894-4203mjj.





The various marques on display at the Spring Kick-Off Inter-Marque Banquet.

## CARS & STARS

Dave Stovall

The Spring Inter-Marque Banquet at the Sheraton Metrodome last month was a great way to start the "driving season" for British sports cars in Minnesota.

More than 70 members from local British car clubs attended the event, hosted by The Minnesota Triumphs.

Several marques representing the various clubs were on display. They included a 1958 TR3 in original unrestored condition, a Bugeye Sprite, a C-Type Jaguar replicar, A 1971 Alfa Romeo "Montreal". A 1989 Morgan +8, a TR-250, Randy Byboth's impeccably restored 1978 MGB, and I even got to bring in my "Need's alot of work" 1969 MGC. I told everyone there I brought my "C" to make the other cars look good, Believe me, they looked good on their own. Some great examples of automobiles from the different clubs.

In addition to the many club members attending, were several local automotive vendors who helped sponsor the event.

The highlight of the evening was the talks given by the two guest speakers. Paul Brand of KSTP Radio and Star Tribune fame, and Bobby Archer, former stock car driver and current owner of Archers Classic Cars in Duluth.

Paul spoke about his former racing days with Group 44 dropping names like Paul Newman. He also touched on the current "Clunker Laws" being legislated around the country. Something all of us involved with restoration and driving of "older" cars should be concerned about.

Bobby also recounted some of his early days of buying, selling, collecting, modifying and racing cars. On a sad note, he also mentioned that Archer Classic cars might not to be around too much longer as the market wasn't strong enough to keep his doors open. Better get up to Duluth to see his place before it's gone. The MMGG Thunder Bay Caravan will be stopping by Archer's place on the way to The Thunder Bay Vintage Car Club's Get Together in June.

## QUALITY COACHES

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## Regalia Frippery Gewgaw

Whatever you choose to call it, we have it. Just about anything you would want with the official Minnesota MG Group logo on it.

Beautiful, multi-colored ceramic mugs and coasters, custom embroidered jackets, baseball caps, "snap-brim" driving caps, sun visors, fanny packs, sweat shirts, tee shirts, golf shirts, just about anything textile can have the MMGG logo added to it for only a few dollars..

Support your club, and show the rest of the motoring public you are a unique person, you belong to the best MG club in the world. . . The Minnesota MG Group



## "BIG BEE"

I had a nice long letter from my old mate John Hill over Christmas, (yes the John Hill of MGB Centre fame!) In this letter, he gave me more information on the 4x4 off-road MGB GT which caused such a stir at MG events in England last year. Knowing the degree of interest in off-roading in the States, we thought you might like to know how it was done. John gives us all the details...

"The vehicle was built on a 1974 Range Rover base with a manual transmission. All we did was measure the wheelbase of the MGB and shorten the Range Rover chassis to match it exactly (a difference of 9"). Then, we removed the overhang from each end of the Range Rover chassis and finally removed the self-leveling device, so that we were left with a very flat, ladder-like chassis. As

It has power assisted steering, a four-speed gearbox, disc brakes all 'round, and of course, the famed Rover 3.5 liter V8.

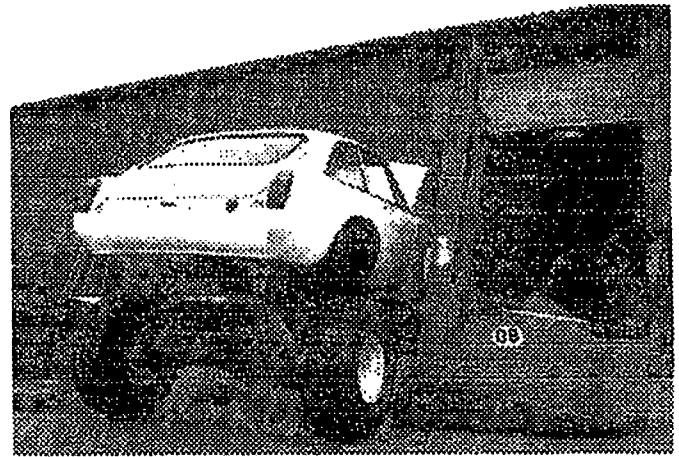
Unlike the MGB GT V8, it was found that the engine was offset on the Range Rover chassis and this presented some problems when we were trying to square up the MGB GT bodyshell to its new chassis. This eventually led to the whole of the front end of the GT being modified, in fact, cut right back to the bulkhead. Completely new inner wheel arches were fabricated, and then covered with our fiberglass Sebring flares kit.

Another major change to the bodyshell was the utilization of the Range Rover tunnel and floor sections, which had to be let into the GT bodyshell. In other words, we removed the whole of the B's transmission tunnel and started again!

So I hear you say, "is it legal?" The answer, at least in England, is NO! It's too

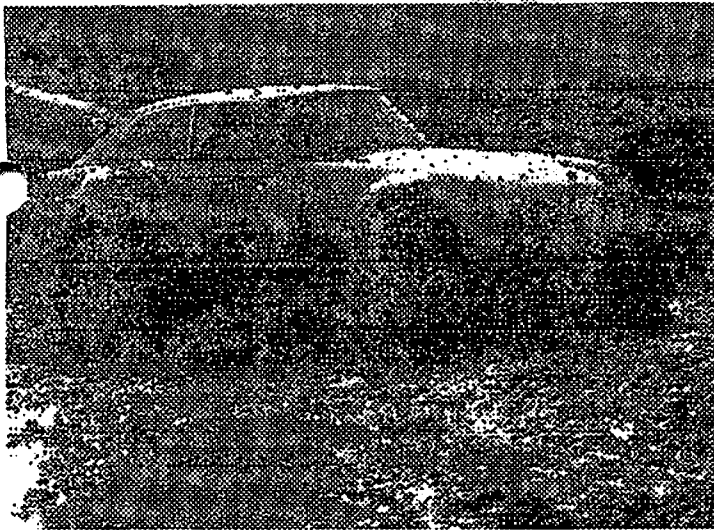
wide, too noisy and doesn't conform to the current UK construction and use regulations. Does it work? Well, yes it does. It fares extremely well in the right conditions, and negotiates river beds, gullies and deep mud, virtually everything that can be thrown against it. However, it was conceived as an advertising gimmick because no one in their right mind would want to drive such a monster on the road! (Wanna bet.—Ed)

From the driving seat it feels and looks to all intents and purposes



like a traditional MGB. The dash, dials, steering and all controls are exactly the same. The upholstery and trim add to that illusion. The only concession we made is that the GT rear seat is not incorporated, since it was our intention originally to have this area accommodate a spare wheel. However, after having made the provision by cutting out the spare wheel well, we discovered that the size of the wheels and tyres we eventually used would simply not fit in the allocated space!

Best wishes to all North American MGB Register members!" John Hill

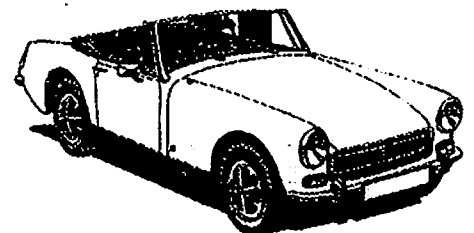


you will appreciate, this was the major part of the conversion, shortening and reducing the Range Rover chassis. Part of the front end of the chassis had to be recessed to accommodate the radiator.

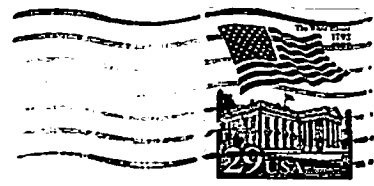
The next part of the conversion was the fitting of coil springs, dampers and an uprated anti-roll bar kit in preparation for the bodywork modifications. We had to rebuild the MGB's bulkhead in order to utilize the Range Rover pedal controls and steering arrangements. In fact, the vehicle drives exactly like a Range Rover.

## MGB DRIVER

Acknowledged as the leading source of information for all MGB and Midget owners, **MGB DRIVER**, a 60 page bi-monthly publication, comes packed with technical and historical information about your car. Subscriptions are \$25 per year. For a sample copy, send \$4 to P.O. Box MGB, Akin, IL 62805, or call 1-800-NAMGBR-1.



Minnesota MG Group  
Dave Stovall  
155 Birmamwood Dr.  
Burnsville, MN 55337



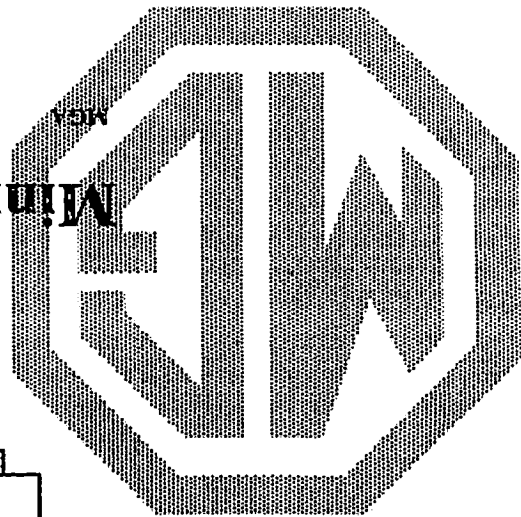
**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

Handy M. Byboth  
2547 East Second Avenue  
North St. Paul, MN 55109

94 PD



Midget MGC MGB MGA  
**Minnesota MG Group**



JOIN HOSTS JOHN & CINDY EATON FOR A  
FUN FILLED DRIVE TO W ABASHA  
WE'LL LUNCH AT THE ANDERSON HOUSE  
SATURDAY MAY 21. SEE FRONT PAGE FOR  
DETAILS.

JUNE 3,4,5, 1994  
RENDEZVOUS ISSUE



VINTAGE

VOICE



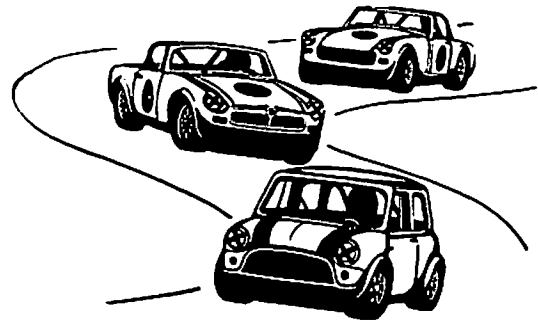
4th Annual  
Lake Superior  
Vintage Sports Car  
Rendezvous

WELCOME  
ENTRANTS



## CLUB EXECUTIVE

President	- Glen Paterson	475-9729
Vice-President	- Reg Bithrey	577-7364
Past President	- Gary Brown	857-2464
Trasurer	- Mary Birch	935-2617
Secretary	- Norris Badani	344-8089
Activities/Publicity	- Lisle Thomson	473-9578
Newsletter Editor	- Gary Brown	857-2464
Regalia	- Reg Bithrey	577-7364



Welcome to the Thunder Bay area. We thank you for attending our gathering and wish you a happy, trouble-free stay in our city. From the Thunder Bay Vintage Sports Car Club people.

## RENDEZVOUS AGENDA

- Friday** : 4:00 pm 'til ? - Registration Desk - *NISSAN* Tent or Main Lobby.  
4:00 pm 'til ? - Hospitality - MacGillivray Room.
- Saturday** : 8:00 am 'til 9:00 am - Rally Breakfast  
MacGillivray Room.  
9:00 am - Rally Drivers/Navigators Meeting  
in MacGillivray Room.  
9:30 am - First Car out - "Rallye Thunder Bay, Eh?".  
12:00 pm - Rally finish and Lunch courtesy of  
*PIT STOP HOT DOGS* on site of slalom.  
1:00 pm - Slalom begins on site.  
4:00 pm - return to Hotel - car prep for show  
( car wash area available - please don't  
use hotel towels).  
6:00 pm 'til 7:30 - Parking Lot Car Show and voting.  
7:30 pm 'til ? - Banquet Barbecue on Back Patio &  
Awards Presentation and Evening of  
Entertainment ( Bluegrass Band  
- *Gibson, Martin & I* ) to follow in  
MacGillivray Room.
- Sunday** : 9:00 am - leave for Old Fort William from Nor'Wester.  
9:30 am - Park in designated security parking lot &  
board buses for Welcomeship.  
10:00 am - Board Welcomeship for cruise'n'brunch.  
12:00 pm - Arrival at Old Fort William. Fort tour  
optional. Dispersal and goodbyes.

### **Shuttle Bus Service**

\* A Shuttle Bus service will be available Friday night and Saturday for service to Intercity Mall, liquor outlets etc. and the slalom site. Pick up at the hotel will be at the *Halfway Motors NISSAN Tent* out front of the hotel. Side trips to other places are possible. Pick up times & places will be arranged *informally* on site.

## Revisiting The Past

I would firstly like to extend a warm welcome to all fellow sports car owners.

This event is the product of continued growth and development of an idea that was conceived back in 1990 when I was unable to attend the Austin Healey Conclave.

Having been involved in a number of Austin Healey events in the past I decided, after discussions with John Davidson, Dyrk Bolger and Tom Politiski, that the time was right to host an event in Thunder Bay.

There was one major problem. At that time there was no "club" in Thunder Bay and so I solicited the help of my wife Donna, a few members of the Austin Healey Club of Manitoba, members of the Thunder Bay Autosport Club and some other local sports car owners to present "Healey's Northwest" - July, 1991. I have to admit that the best marketing contact for this meet was Tom Politiski from the Minnesota Austin Healey Club. He enthusiastically promoted the event to fellow members and to the Wisconsin club resulting in a convey travelling north along the "cool" North Shore of Superior to Thunder Bay.

The Nor'Wester Resort Hotel was selected as the venue to host the event. When first approached they were in the middle of renovations that were guaranteed to be completed by May with everything being set by the time of the meet. As the event grew closer I became increasingly concerned about the Hotel - things didn't seem to be progressing at the rate at which I thought they should - however, the management reassured me that the facility was being readied. Well, to make a long story short, the parking lot was paved three days before the meet, only some of the rooms were finished, the restaurant was not open and the pool facilities were not completed. The lobby became the center for all weekend activities with the Hotel doing a great job of hosting close to sixty people even though they were not open to the public yet.

With twenty eight registrants and a great collection of vehicles from Manitoba, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Ontario the first annual event was declared a success, rain and all.

Tom and the Minnesota contingent went away suitably impressed and decided to host the event in Duluth in June, 1992.

Once again Lake Superior was a major attraction and for the first time the event became known as the Annual Lake Superior A H Meet. The Best Western Edgewater was an excellent host venue - who could forget the free happy hour provided by the Hotel - the hospitality was super. Approx. thirty-five cars were registered from Illinois, Manitoba, Minnesota, Ontario and Wisconsin demonstrating that the event was experiencing a positive growth trend.

The weather was great, the camaraderie was fine and a fantastic tour of the Archer Brother's race car shop highlighted the weekend.

A challenge was presented to the Wisconsin Austin Healey Club to carry the torch for 1993 and that they did.

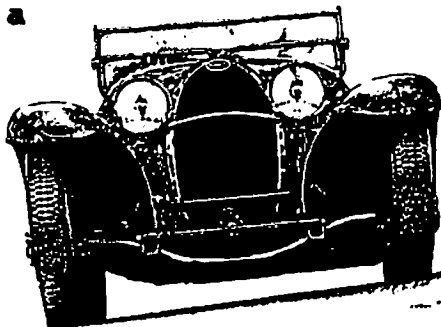
In June, 1993 the quaint village of Bayfield was awakened by the sound of sports cars from Illinois, Minnesota, Ontario and Wisconsin. Great weather was the order of the day as a very relaxing weekend was spent touring the sites of the area. One of the highlights of the weekend was a tour on the ferry to historic Madeline Island. A bicycle tour, great ice cream and good friends made for an enjoyable weekend. "Rain, rain go away" We departed in the rain and got drenched on the way home - I can still see John Bonneville, driving a topless Archer Bros. Bugeye Sprite, trying to pretend that this British Sports Car thing was fun.

This meet has now come full circle - we are proud to host the 4th Annual Lake Superior Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. Many changes have taken place since the first event. Most importantly the formation of the 35 member Thunder Bay Vintage Sports Car Club.

A number of common elements have contributed to the success of the last three events but two things top the list - FUN and FRIENDS!!

The tradition continues to grow - have a great weekend - thanks for helping us to make it happen.

Glen Paterson  
President,  
Thunder Bay  
Vintage Sports  
Car Club



**Abbreviated History of the TBVSCC**  
by Gary Brown

- first meeting was January 16, 1992  
at Ozzie's Restaurant, Dawson Road -  
third Thursday of each month picked  
as meeting date - about 15 people

- steering committee set - first  
newsletter published March 1992 -24  
people listed as members

- May, 1992 - official logo designed  
by Dick Spooner - single club  
membership \$10 - family \$15 - first  
parking lot show at Ozzie's.

- Gord Birch puts our philosophy into  
words.

- first attendance in public -  
Lakehead Antique Car Club info booth  
at Landmark Inn - Dorion Car Show -  
summer of '92

- Aug. 30, '92 - first "Let's Salvage  
Summer" tour.

- first elected exec. October '92

- winter of '93 saw monthly meetings  
enlivened by guest speakers, hands-on  
tech sessions and visits to shops.

- Bayfield & 3rd Annual Lake Superior  
Meet visited by our official club in  
early June.

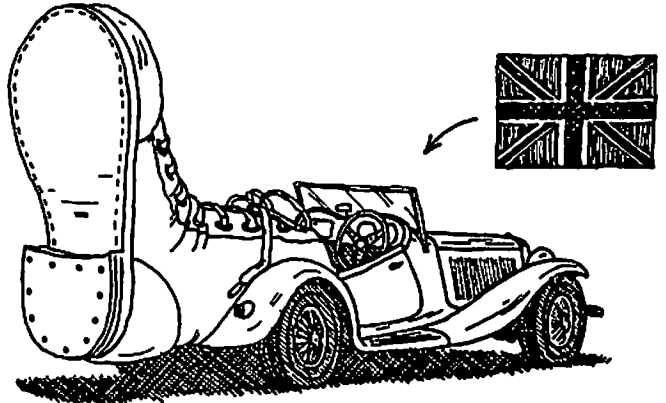
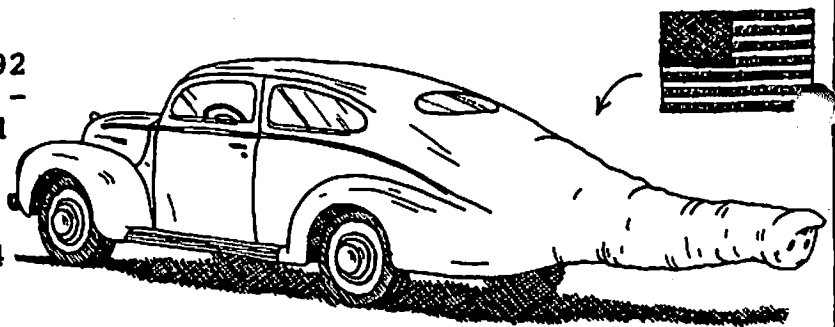
- newsletter goes to "professional"  
format.

- May 20, '93 first decision to host  
4TH Annual Lake Superior Meet.

- 3 major events in summer of '93 -  
Father's Day Poker Rally ( first  
taste of Pit Stop Hot Dogs ! ) -  
Silver Islet Tour and Brunch - Ouimet  
Canyon Run.

- a true club activity that summer  
was the extraction of Dennis' TR3  
from an overgrown junk pile by human  
effort.

- the club has by this time taken up  
official residence at the Thunder Bay  
Yacht Club meeting room at the C.N.  
station.



- Paul gets bit by the slalom bug.

- first Annual Road Kill Barbecue ( Lisle's screen debut! ).

- October 3rd was 2nd Annual Fall  
Colours Tour ( Let's Salvage Summer )  
with more Pit Stop Hot Dogs. Just the  
way to end the top-down season.

- October, '93 sees second elections  
as a club.

- October 21/93 newsletter breaks  
official news of RENDEZVOUS.

- December '93 fees for club set at  
\$15 single - \$20 - family.

- first Christmas Social great  
success.

- Rendezvous meetings held monthly.

- Spring of '94 hosts first  
garage/project tour - five projects  
listed to visit.

- Rendezvous - June 3,4,5/ 94, first  
attempt at hosting an international  
multi-marque event in our area.