

Bristol Motorcar Festival 2024

Our journey to the Bristol Motorcar Festival in RI was from June 6 to June 8. Déjà vu from last year! All week rainy weather had been predicted but at the last minute all that changed! I started out from Bolton on Thursday, June 6, and picked up Deb in RI and we proceeded to Bristol. Some minor showers accompanied us but after our arrival in Bristol the weather was great! This year I drove my 1994 MG RV8 to the show after much work on the car this past year including a new gas tank, new speedo, distributor, fuel injectors, removing the defunct AC set up among other things. This was our first time with the RV8 in this show after taking our 1962 MGA MK II for the past few years.

As we have done in past years, we arrived on Thursday evening to take in the early Friday morning tour encompassing about 90 miles of a self- directed ride of the Rhode Island countryside. This is a great tour and recommended for anyone going to this show in the future. Every time we do this tour, I want to move here. Not going to happen though.

After this tour, we went the Bristol RI Veterans Home to display our cars for the residents at this great facility. Many cars showed up and we had a great time talking to several of the residents.

Friday evening at around 5 PM we entered the British car parade around the town finishing up in Independence Park for the street party which lasted until dark. We met up with Bruce Vild who publishes the British Marque and discussed its future. Bruce is retiring from his many years of producing it and I was wondering if anyone would “pick it up” to continue its value to the British car community. So far, nothing. Anyone?

Saturday the car show was on, starting at 10 AM for the public. The weather was great again. Voting was underway for the various car classes and completed at 1 PM. My car managed a 2nd place in its class which was a “catch all” for all those cars that didn’t fall into any of the popular classes. It was the only MG RV8 there.

This is one of our favorite shows of the year due to the venue, the great food available, very well managed, and the opportunity to meet old and make new friends!

Chuck O’Neal

A view of the cars on the field



Another view of the cars on the field

