

Bay State MGA Club Goes to British Motorcars in Bristol, RI 2021

Debbie and I left Massachusetts Thursday afternoon for the 1 ½ hour drive to Bristol Rhode Island to attend the “British Motorcars in Bristol” in our 1962 MGA. The weather forecast had predicted a chance of rain and sure enough, we drove through a few light showers, with the top down. We arrived at the inn, had a great dinner at one of Bristol’s fine restaurants and got to bed early for the Road Tour planned the next day.

On Friday morning the Road Tour started at 9AM after the drivers meeting and was a self directed tour with well written instructions covering every turn. We wound up driving in groups of 5 – 8 cars and covered 100 miles of back roads with great scenery. Some of the roads exercised the MGA’s handling on tight curves at good speed which I enjoyed.

After the tour and lunch, we went to Colt State Park, the venue for the show, and lined up for a parade limited to 80 of our British cars. The parade with police escort coursed through the main streets of Bristol and terminated in Independence Park for the evening street party including a live band and food. The cars were parked and lined up for viewing by the public for the evening until the party ended around 9 PM

On Saturday morning starting at 8:30 AM British cars in 40 classes by make and year were arranged on one of the fields in Colt State Park. Cars were cleaned and polished until 10 AM when the public was allowed in. We also met fellow club member Michael Rosen at the show although he didn’t bring his car due to the weather uncertainties. Speaking of the weather, the day was hot and very humid with dew points in the low 70’s. Also hurricane Henri was due to hit the next day and our phones frequently went off with emergency storm warnings. The 10 AM start of the show was launched with a very loud cannon blast. Car judging took place until 1 PM and the results announced around 2:30 PM.

Debbie and I left for home after the show resulting in a total of 250 plus miles put on our MGA in 2 days. Overall it was a great show put on by BCNE especially considering this is their first time managing it. We will be returning next year since they are promising to be back.

Chuck O’Neal

Chuck and Michael behind Chuck's MGA

