

T's & The Queen

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Then the gleaming cars (well, most of them gleamed) went on display that afternoon — all 265 of them. Since the Queen Mary is a major tourist attraction, the car display naturally diverted quite a number of camera-clutching tourists who had come originally to see the ship. We suspect that the shiny little cars were the Queen's greatest attraction that weekend.

There was one rather odd and unscheduled event that afternoon. A person or persons (who prefer to remain unknown) unfurled a club banner from the port side of the Queen Mary. Nothing unusual about that — except that it was the banner of the New England MG-T Register. Wonder where that came from?

More than 500 people crowded into the Queen Mary's elegant Grand Salon for the Saturday evening banquet. As fingers were crossed, these car display winners were announced (from California unless otherwise noted):

Premier: 1948 TC, Reid Pullen, Yorba Linda. This was awarded for the first time at a West Coast GOF. Competitors were previous GOF car display or concours winners.

TF: first — Lawrence Alexander, Santa Barbara; second — Dale Mastell, Santa Ana; third — William Quist, Los Alamitos; fourth — Jim Melvin, Mission Viejo.

TD: first — Melvin Appel, Encino; second — Christopher Couper, Fullerton; third — John Berg, Glendale; fourth — David Williams, El Cajon; fifth — James Olds, South Laguna; sixth — Don Weisbard, Van Nuys.

TD Mark II: first — Harry Scarboro, San Jose; second — Roger Christy, Lakeside.

TC: first — G. W. "Jeff" McKenzie, Irvine; second — Paul Vusovich, Cypress; third — Phil Marino, Fountain Valley; fourth — Jim Evans, El Cajon.

Vintage 4-seater: first — Gerald Felper, Anaheim, 1948 YA; second — Harold Houghton, Pebble Beach, 1939 WA.

Vintage 2-seater: first — Jim Lutz, Los Angeles, 1929 M-type; second — Pete Thelander, Westminster, 1934 NE.

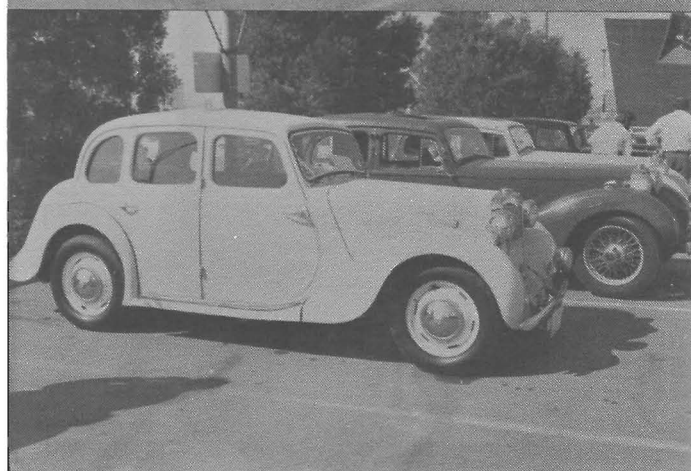
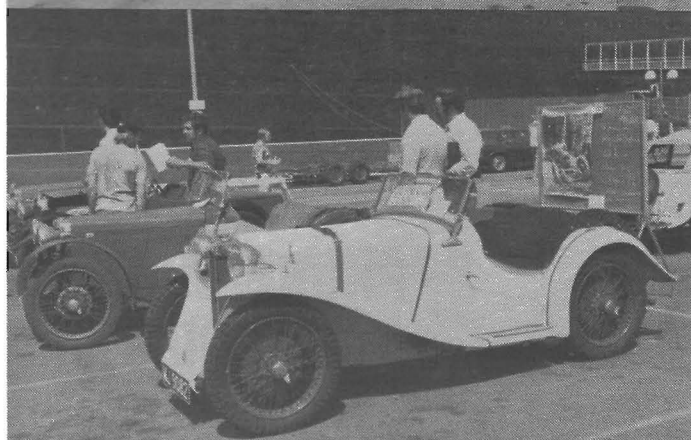
Distinguished merit awards went to Win Estess, Pebble Beach, TF 1500; Harold Gray, Portland, Ore., TF; Jack Gressang, Tustin, TD Mark II; Gary Beacom, Fresno, TD; Paul Cartwright, Buena Park, TD; Skip Kelsey, Pleasanton, TD; Al Moss, Goleta, TC; Jack Berry, Rolling Hills Estates, TC.

The best club participation award went to the Vintage Club of Southern California with 89 cars and the Rocky Mountain T Register of Colorado won the club mileage award. Individual mileage award was won by Bob Wescott, who came all the way from Fairfax, Alaska.

Participants and celebrants retired to assorted room parties (or deck parties) to wind up Saturday night — and on a couple of occasions, to greet Sunday morning. One group of revelers, led by Don Crosby of Arcadia and Liz Martin of Concord with encouragement from Al Moss, placed a midnight telephone call to Jarl de Boer, the baron of northern California MGs. Jarl normally is active in GOFs, but had a prior commitment to race his vintage Siata in the Classic Car Races in Monterey that weekend.

Sunday morning. The faithful blinked at the unaccustomed light (it **had** been a hazy weekend, in more ways than one), and drifted over to the English-style village next to the Queen Mary, where winning cars had been placed on display. They then lined up — with the aid of CB radios — for a tour of lesser and greater Long Beach and vicinity, and the traditional closing picnic.

By late afternoon, the participants fanned out from Long Beach (and stopped frequently to fan their engines on that unusually hot day), headed for home. It has been a good



Among the cars at GOF West were the Quinn's 1937 SA (top), a line-up of vintage two seaters (center) and the four seater line-up with David Miller's YA in the foreground.

GOF — the biggest yet. And even as this one ended, we West Coast MG enthusiasts had another to look forward to. Planning well ahead, the Northwest MGT Register already has set the date — and signed up several participants — for GOF West '77. It will be August 11-14, 1977, at the Greenwood Inn in Olympia.

The Northwest group may not have been able to find a symbol as timely as a British ship for British cars. But Olympia does have a famous symbol that should attract the MG crowd — it's the home of one of the largest breweries in America . . .