CAN-AM CONNECTION

vol. 9 no. 9 | Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club | Nov./Dec. 1989

This month's meeting:

Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep...

The weather is starting to get colder. The days are getting shorter. The stores are putting out their Christmas merchandise. What does this mean? It's time for the hibernation party! Yes, it's time for the club to get together one last time this year to party (like we need an excuse).

This is always the best attended event; usually because the club buys the first round or two. This is also when we elect officers and give out awards.

This year's hibernation party will happen at the Rendezvous Tavern in Windsor on Friday, November 10, at 7:00. The Rendezvous offers a great seafood menu, along with the usual favorites. There will also be live entertainment starting a 9:00 for those of you who want to trip the light fantastic (or in my case, just trip).

There will be a raffle in addition to the usual door prizes. The raffle prize is a Sinclair Microvision multi-standard 2-inch black-and-white television. Raffle tickets are reasonably priced at $2 each or 3 for $5. Proceeds will go to the club.

There are two ways to get to the Rendezvous: The direct route (about 8 mi.) is take the E.C. Rowe Expressway north to Lesperance Road. Turn towards the river (left). When you get to Riverside Drive, turn left and it's one block on the right side of the road. The scenic route (about 11 mi.) is to take Riverside Drive all the way to the restaurant. This is longer, but you get to take in the sights of the river and Lake St.Clair.

All members will be contacted by phone because we need an accurate head count to give the restaurant. We hope to see a lot of folks there. You just can't tell...if you don't show up, we just might elect you for something.

Calendar of Events--1989

NOVEMBER

2 (Thurs.) Detroit BSCC Stroh Nite at the Strohhaus, $6.50 per person. 6:00-9:00 p.m.

10 (Fri.) Hibernation Party, Rendezvous Tavern, Windsor. 7:00 p.m. See above article for details.

DECEMBER

21 (Thurs.) First day of Winter...only three more months until Spring!

23 (Sat.) Happy Hanukah!

25 (Mon.) Christmas Day. Did you give anyone regalia?

26 (Tues.) Boxing Day...when all the toys are forgotten and the kids play with the boxes!

31 (Sun.) New Year's Eve. Don't drink and drive!

JANUARY

1 (Mon.) HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

October Meeting: Cooling Down for Winter

The October meeting, held October 4, was well attended considering the weather. It was a little on the cool side as we met at Bishop Park. After erecting the club banner, much to the amusement of the neighbors, we stood around and compared stories about Battle of the Brits, apple picking, etc.

There were 4 MGs out braving the cold, however nobody had their hoods down. Afterwards we adjourned to the Portside Inn in Wyandotte for food and beverage.

We took some nominations for member of the year, new member of the year, and for officers for next year.

Attending were: **Ray Filter, Hayden Heath, Frank Lucente, Dave Clarke, Guy & Ann St. John, and Dan & Marla Zebarah.** We also discussed plans for the hibernation party and next year's calendar of events.

Season's Greetings!

The officers of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club would like to wish our membership the best for this holiday season.

Hayden and Ann Heath
Dave and Gayle Clarke
Roli and Betty Sylvestre
Frank and Linda Lucente
Dan and Marla Zebarah
Gary and Diane Howe
Dave Naylor and Kathleen Pagen

Behind the Wheel

by Hayden Heath, President

Hello again, enthusiasts;

Almost as much as we anticipate our MG sports car season beginning, it suddenly draws to a close. Where has the summer gone? However, several members of the club had one last opportunity to enjoy their MGs and demonstrate their enthusiasm for the WDMGC.

The first Sunday in October, as you recall, was one of the most beautiful fall days you could imagine. The temperature was mild and the sun was out and bright all day (almost). What a day for a fall colour tour!!

Our annual colour tour and apple picking event began at the Tourist Bureau in Windsor at about 11:30 a.m. We left from there and drove up Route 2 to RR 33 along Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River. The great weather allowed us to keep our hoods down and view the scenery up to Sarnia. In addition, we took the opportunity to view St. Clair River and Lake Huron for a scenic turnout at Point Edward. As the day progressed, daylight was getting short. At about 3 p.m., some of us departed toward the Arkona Apple picking areas and others took the Port Lambton Ferry to Algonac for dinner. All in all we had a great time in the sun.

On October 4, our last regular club meeting was held at the Portside Inn in Wyandotte. Although the turnout was light due to the cool weather, we were able to plan and discuss the hibernation party, nomination of officers, and award nominations. All in all, it was a nice quiet evening.

As an additional note, we (the executive committee) would like to have your nominations for each official club position, e.g., President, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chairman, etc., and nominations for "Most Valuable Member", the "Hard Luck" award, and so on. Our deadline for these is November 1. Please respond by this date by either phone or mail. Thanks.

See you at the Hibernation Party!

The Litter Bag

by Dan Zebarah, Editor

It's that time of year where all of us turn into little kids and wish for lots and lots of good surprises. No, I'm not talking about summer car shows, I'm talking about Christmas. In the spirit of the season, I thought I'd share some of my favorite carols:

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me:
Twelve alternators,
Eleven oil filters,
Ten socket wrenches,
Nine sets of gaskets,
Eight cans of car wax,
Seven rebuilt fuel pumps,
Six headlight relays,
FIVE WIRE WHEELS,
Four spark plugs,
Three fan belts,
Two thermostats,
And a new clutch for my MG!

JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world, my parts have come
My B will run again!
I've got my carburetor, go 'way and call me later
I'm locked in my garage
I'm locked in my garage
I'm locked, I'm locked in my garage!

UP ON THE HOUSE TOP

Up on the house top, the reindeer pause
Out jumps good old Santa Claus!
Spreading the presents around the tree,
All of them needing assembly.

chorus
Ho ho ho, who wouldn't go
Ho ho ho, who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click, click, click
Down through the chimney with good St. Nick.

First is a doll house for little Nell,
Dooming me for hours of hell
"You'll need screwdrivers," instructions say
But they don't sell vodka on Christmas Day!

(repeat chorus)

Next comes a wagon for little Sean
I sure hope I finish by dawn!
Six hours later I've not gone far,
Didn't take me this long to fix my car!

(repeat chorus)

(continued on page 3)

In the Headlights

Happy Birthday Wishes to the following people:

Ruth Brough	Nov 3
Jeannie Hastings	Nov 7
Jennifer Cooper	Nov 8
Susan D. Schultz	Nov 11
Guy St. John	Nov 17
Jeff Newton	Nov 19
Laura Mann	Nov 21
Lance Rutherford	Nov 22
Jerry Nickels	Nov 29
Judy Cooper	Dec 1
Matt Oles	Dec 1
Stacey Thorton	Dec 3
Jane Boot-Osowski	Dec 6
Kim Rutherford	Dec 11
Lorrie Campbell	Dec 12
Sandy Stoyshin	Dec 16
John Van Dyk	Dec 16
Aaron Pillon	Dec 21
Cliff Morris	Dec 22
Dan Zebarah	Dec 31

And a Happy Belated Birthday to the following:

Bruce Harton	Feb 20
Barrie Barber	April 21
Pat Harton	July 6
Jeff Harton	Aug 22
Dan Harton	Sep 5
Judie Barber	Oct 21

-Marla Zebarah

Battle of the Brits 1989: A Truimph for MGs

This year's Battle of the Brits, held September 17 at Historic Fort Wayne, was a great time for those who attended. The new format, however, was confusing. For those who did not attend, the only similarity between Brits '89 and past events was the two classes, judged and open.

Both classes were displayed as in previous years, but cars were only competing with other cars from the same model year, with all British marques being able to participate in judged class. This was done, according to Brits organizer Nigel Heap (from that other car club), "to make it a TRUE Battle of the Brits."

Judging was done *a la* Carnival of Cars, using forms stolen, er, borrowed from the event.

The awards came fast and furious, so if I forgot someone's name, I apologize. It took a while to figure out what was going on, but all in all, our club did quite well.

The winners included:

Tom Shipley, 1st place judged, 1960 MGA

Art Stoyshin, 1st place judged, 1970 MGB

Mike Stoyshin, 1st place judged, 1974 MGB

Frank Lucente, 1st place open, 1974 MGB

Dan Zebarah, 1st place judged, 1978 MGB

Hayden Heath, 2nd place judged, 1980 MGB LE

I'm sorry if I missed anybody, but if you were there, you know how crazy it got near the end.

The participation award, Battle of the Brits award, and tug of war award were not given out, and will not be used in future events. "Since we are including all marques, this event cannot be considered the 'Triumph Club vs. MG Club' anymore", said Heap. He added that there should be greater participation in the event, which has been held since 1982.

The Litter Bag

(continued from page 2)

THE CHRISTMAS SONG

Street lights shining on an open hood,
Jack Frost nipping at your nose,
It's warm in the house and you know that you should
Be inside thawing out your toes.
Everybody knows an MG is a summer car
But you said you would get the tree,
The tree was too big, and you drove much too far
To put the top down on your MGB.
Kids know that Daddy's on his way,
He'll bring the tree to trim on Christmas Day,
But with the top down he'll need some sherry
Or he won't warm up 'till January
And so, I'm offering this simple phrase
When you pick up your Christmas tree
Although it's been said many times, many ways,
"Do not take your MG."

LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW (THE MG WIDOW'S SONG)

Oh, the weather outside is frightful,
Inside it's so delightful
To the garage he cannot go
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

(continued on page 4)

FROG
Foreign Auto Parts
19050 W. Warren • Detroit, MI 48228
FOREIGN CAR PARTS ARE OUR ONLY BUSINESS
JIM•KEN
Phone 271-3160

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PRESIDENT:
HAYDEN HEATH
10701 Mt. Vernon #201
Taylor, MI 48180
(313)291-5637

MEMBERSHIP:
DAVE CLARKE
3996 Longfellow
Windsor, Ontario N9B 2E4
(519)966-3449

CLUB REGALIA:
ROLI SYLVESTRE
(Can) 3493 Church St.
Windsor, Ontario N9E 1V6
(519)969-2739

CLUB REGALIA:
DAVE NAYLOR
(U.S.) 2551 Ripple Way
Milford, MI 48042
(313)685-7563

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
DAN ZEBARAH
1327 Austin
Lincoln Park, MI 48146
(313)382-6715

SPARES & PARTS:
FRANK LUCENTE
854 Hall Ave.
Windsor, Ontario N9A 2M3
(519)977-5346

BRIT CAR COUNCIL:
GARY HOWE
12243 Corvair
Sterling Heights, MI 48077
(313)939-6851

ADVERTISING RATES:

Classified Ads:
FREE to members!
Business Card Size:
$5.00/month, $35.00/year
Quarter Page:
$10.00/month, $70.00/year
Half Page:
$15.00/month, $105.00/year
Full Page:
$25.00/month, $175.00/year

Club Regalia

	U.S.	Can.
Men's T-Shirts, Club Logo S/M/L Gray with red logo Gray with black logo Tan with black logo White, blue ribbing, red logo	$ 6.50	$ 8.00
Men's Golf Shirts, Club Logo S/M/L	$16.00	$21.00
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Children's T-Shirt, Club Logo **LIMITED NUMBER & SIZES** Gray with red logo Gray with black logo	$ 6.50	$ 8.00
Sweatshirts, Club Logo S/M/L	$15.00	$20.00
Windbreakers, Club Logo S/M/L	$20.00	$26.50
Ties, Club Logo Colors available: Navy, Maroon, Dark Brown	$ 6.00	$ 8.00
Belts - Leather, MG Logo	$ 9.00	$11.00
Belt Buckles - Brass, MG Logo	$ 5.00	$ 6.00
SAVE! BUY BOTH FOR ONLY	$13.00	$16.00
Car Badges, Club Logo.	$ 8.00	$ 9.50
Baseball Cap, MG Logo Navy Blue, White Logo	$ 5.00	$ 6.00
Beer Mugs, MG Logo Brown & Tan Logo	$ 3.00	$ 3.75
SAVE! BUY THREE FOR ONLY	$ 8.00	$10.00
Foam beverage holder with club logo	$2.00	$2.50
SAVE! BUY A SET OF FOUR FOR ONLY	$7.00	$9.00

Christmas is coming up fast! Wouldn't that special someone look good in some regalia? Contact your regalia chairman for details.

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Thomas Shipley

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: MG floor mats, black, $30. 1 Dunlop tire mounted on Rostyle wheel, $60. Tonneau cover, $110. Rostyle wheel caps, $3.00 each. Hayden Heath, 291-5637.

FOR SALE: Octagonal wrench for wire wheels, $5.00. Aftermarket hard top with hardware, good condition, $275 or best offer. Factory hard top, good condition, with hardware, $325. Dan Zebarah, 382-6715.

FOR SALE: MGB Hard top, black enamel, just refinished, outstanding condition, $300. Dave Campbell, 681-3852.

FORSALE: MGB body parts. 2 fenders, bonnet, boot lid. Mike Derdarian, 588-2717.

FOR SALE: 1960 MGA roadster, outstanding condition. Red, wire wheels, 26,000 actual miles. Needs absolutely nothing. $10,900. Mike Cohen, 399-1979.

FOR SALE: 1970 MGB-GT, Tartan Red, wire wheels, black interior, immaculate body, all new chrome moldings and bumpers. Rebuilt engine. Kim Rutherford, (519) 337-8586.

WANTED: Inner fenders for 1975-on MGB. MGC rear axle, 3:31 gear ratio. Jim Bolinger, (313) 782-9685.

Looking for something? Selling something? Don't forget, these classified ads are FREE to members! Call or write the newsletter editor.

Litter Bag

(continued from page 3)

There's lots he can do inside,
no place where he can go hide
The temperature's way down low
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

When it finally comes to him,
that he can't drive his car in the cold,
He'll start working around the home
doing whatever he's told!

He'll turn into a saint now
The bedroom he will paint now
He's been promising since '80, so,
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

As my first year as editor draws to a close, I would like to thank everybody for their support and encouragement. It has been a lot of fun this year.

For those of you who I won't see at the hibernation party, I wish you a happy holiday season. This also means that this newsletter is your FIRST Christmas card!

Nuts and Bolts

Windshield Wiper Troubleshooting Made Easy

Taken from "MG Octagon" the journal of the M.G. Car Club Western Australia.

Set out below are some graphic displays showing the effects of worn wiper components on your car's windscreen. The effects range from an annoying and irritating noise to a windscreen that is almost totally obliterated by streaks and smears.

As responsible motorists we all realize the safety aspects involved and the importance of clear visibility at all times, so if you are experiencing any of the effects shown below you should carry out the recommended cures as soon as possible.

HAZING
An aerated film spread by the blade and resulting in a translucent trailing band on the screen surface.
CAUSE: Pressure distribution not correct due to damaged or bent steel flexor in blade.
CURE: Replace blade.

INCOMPLETE ARC BY WINDLIFT
Unwiped area within the wipe pattern either in front of or to the side of the driver.
CAUSE: Wind speed causing blade to lift off screen.
CURE: Check arm pressure. If too low, change arm. Replace blade with anti-windlift construction.

NOISE
Several types of noise can be produced by the wiper blade 'squeak', 'honk', or 'rattle'.
CAUSE: When the screen is wet, squeak and honk noises are caused by a too high friction between the wiper rubber and the screen surface. Rattle is caused by too much play in the blade super structure.

INCOMPLETE ARC
Unwiped area anywhere within the complete arc. (The wiped pattern per wiper blade will not transverse the complete arc, e.g. pause halfway and then returns).
CAUSE: Drive shaft turns within the arm mounting heads.
CURE: Re-tighten arm securing nut in drive shaft.
CAUSE: Drive mechanism worn.
CURE: Replace drive mechanism.
CAUSE: Incorrect arm pressure.
CURE: Replace arm.
CAUSE: Bent blade of flexor.
CURE: Replace blade.

SMEARING
Smearing is the equal distribution of contaminants over the wipe arc.
CAUSE: Greasy windscreen.
CURE: Thoroughly clean glass and wiper blade rubber.
CAUSE: Wiping lip worn.
CURE: Replace wiper blade.
CAUSE: Wiper arm end not parallel to screen.
CURE: Remove blade and place arm on screen, check if screen and arm tip are parallel. If not, rectify.

SPLITTING
Rubber splits or breaks away near the end of or middle of the blade.
CAUSE: Rubber is aged or worn.
CURE: Replace blade.

FISHTAILING
The wiper blade is 'wagging' over the screen during operation, similar pattern a 'chatter'.
CAUSE: Too much play between the arm and the blade connector or between the connector and the blade.
CURE: Change wiper blade connector or replace blade.

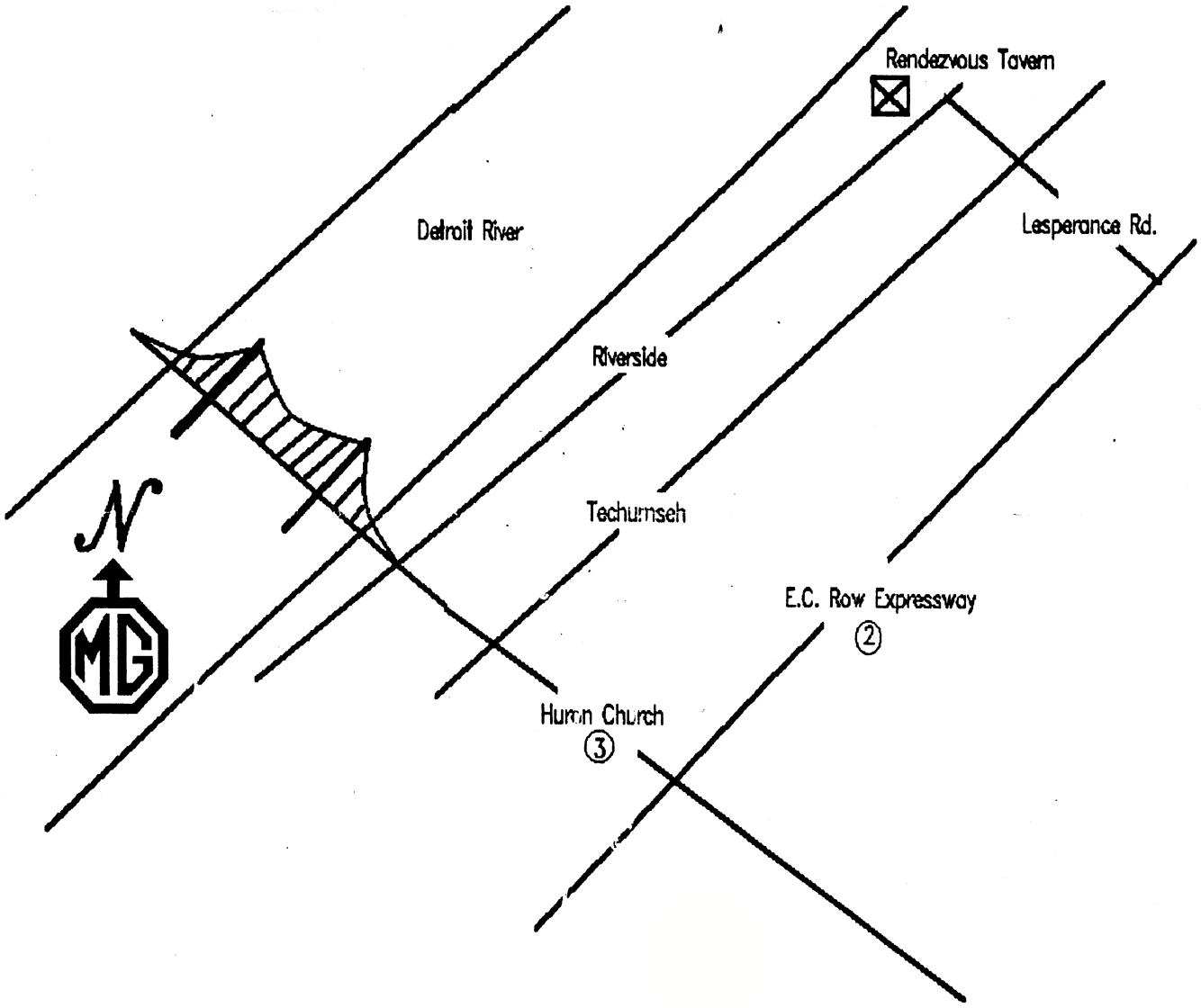
SCALLOPING
Uneven wipe at the outer periphery of the arc.
CAUSE: Insufficient pressure at blade end(s).
CURE: Check arm pressure. If unsatisfactory, replace arm. If satisfactory, replace blade.
CAUSE: Steel flexor or blade bent.
CURE: Replace blade.

INCORRECT BLADE
Various patterns of uneven wipe. Blade not describing correct arc. Possible accompanying 'knock'.
CAUSE: Blade length incorrect for screen depth or curvature. Blade may foul windscreen surround.
CURE: Fit correct blade.

CHATTER
Irregular movement of wiper blade accompanied by temporary visible radial lines. This vibration movement usually produces noisy operation.
CAUSE: Wiper arm end not parallel to screen.
CURE: Remove blade and place arm on screen, check if screen and arm tip are parallel. If not, rectify.
CAUSE: Worn blade.
CURE: Replace blade.
CAUSE: Wiper arm end worn. (Excessive clearance between arm end and blade).
CURE: Replace arm.

LACE CURTAIN
A maze of fine individual water droplets which are formed after the wiper blade passes over the screen surface.
CAUSE: Lay over a rubber wiping lip excessive. Contact surface of rubber wiping lip excessive.
CURE: Replace wiper blade.

STREAKING
Fine lines of unwiped moisture within the arc.
CAUSE: Damaged rubber wiping lip.
CURE: Replace wiper blade.



The Can-Am Connection
1327 Austin
Lincoln Park, MI 48146
U.S.A.