THE CAN-AM CONNECTION

vol. 12 no. 7 Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club September 1992

The Prince of Darkness Hosts This Year's A&W Rally

"The time has come," the Walrus said, "to speak of many things.
Of sailing ships and sealing wax, of cabbages and kings."
Lewis Carroll—Alice Through the Looking Glass

Of course you may need all these things to repair your electrical system . . .

Since the A & W is dark, i.e., closed, we all thought we might as well pay tribute to the king of the dark, Joseph Lucas. **Dave Clarke** has graciously agreed to lay out another of his internationally-famous rally routes *(editor's note: well, our club DOES span two countries . . .)*. This year, however, he's adding a twist: We will rally after dark!

We will start with dinner at Kelsey's, 2601 Luzon Parkway, and head out from there. The route will end up at a local watering hole for results and few beers.

The rally will be on Saturday, September 26 at 6 p.m., with the first car leaving at 8 or 8:30 p.m.. There will be awards, ribbons, and a lot of fun! We hope to see you there!

UML Summer Party '92

62 Members, 25 Cars, 18 Awards

WOW! That best describes University Motors 16th annual Summer Party, held August 21-23 in Grand Rapids. The weather was gorgeous, the cars were fantastic, and everybody had a great time.

On the field at Townsend Park were 550 MGs, ranging from a 1938 J2 Midget to rows of 1980 Limited Editions. This year's featured car, the MG-TF, made a grand exhibit with over 40 of these beautiful cars on the field.

Club-wise, we had the best turnout ever. Over 60 members were in attendance. As usual, there was a rally, parts contest, model contest, and many vendors for those looking for that really obscure part.

The awards banquet was held outdoors under a (very) large tent. As usual, WDMGC members won a fair share of awards.

Next year, the featured car will be "The Originally Owned MG", so if you are the original owner of your MG, you better start working on it!

A complete list of winners is on page 5.

Oops!

Hey, everybody makes misteaks.

We really didn't expect the turnout we got at Summer Party this year, so we ran out of t-shirts because we didn't order enough. For those members who did not receive a shirt at Grand Rapids, you are entitled to two.

These will be available at the September meeting at Coach & Horses and Battle of the Brits. Call Guy St. John at (313) 349-3649 so he'll make sure you get your shirt.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience or hard feelings caused by this error.

You were expecting Paul Revere?

Brits is Coming! Brits is Coming!

The eleventh annual Battle of the Brits will be held Sunday, September 13 at Freedom Hill Park in Sterling Heights. This event, which has undergone some changes in past years, has undergone another one.

There will be no awards this year; all cars will be displayed only. There will be events for participants of a funkhana nature, and all preregistered car owners will receive an event T-shirt.

All non-participant cars will be subject to a $5 fee for park entry; this is Freedom Hill's admission fee. Registration costs $12 per car.

As always, this show is organized by the Detroit Triumph Sportscar Club, and is usually one of our best-attended events of the season.

The show will start at 10 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m., rain or shine.

There will also be a British motorcycle show, so if you're bored with the cars (yeah, right), you can always look at the bikes.

Inside:

- **On the Road With Adrienne & Rich Wagner**
- **Results from Summer Party & English Day**
- **Lots of stuff for sale!**
- **. . . and the usual nonsense!**

Behind the Wheel

by Guy St.John, President

Well, August was everything summer should be, except long enough. Mother Nature finally got in a cooperative mood and came through with great weather for each event this month.

The three way meet in Lansing started cool, but finished with great top down weather. It couldn't have been better for English Day on the Green or University Motors Summer Party.

Our club's attendance at this year's car shows was at an all-time high, as was the quality of the cars. This was reflected in the number of awards received by club members.

The 1992 Membership Directory is hot off the press; you should have received it already.

The monthly meeting in Windsor will feature more videos and snaps of recent club events, as well as some interesting factory promotional films.

Battle of the Brits, on September 13, won't have concours or popular judging of cars this year; but, as always, it's a great day to relax and see lots of great British cars and motorcycles.

Dave Clarke's annual A & W rallye, on September 26, will have a new twist this year. Since the A & W is closed, we made a switch, but I won't leave you in the dark, the enlightening details are elsewhere in this issue.

Finally, come watch an afternoon of SCCA racing at Waterford on the 27th at this years British Car Council's "British Day at the Races" (see flyer). As an added bonus, all British cars in attendance will be allowed several free touring laps of the track.

Our October colour tour on the 18th will be on the Ontario side this year. Plans are not complete at this time, but I hear rumors about apple picking, wine tasting and more. Please check the calendar for various October events.

Plans are well underway for this years Hibernation Party, November 21 in St. Clair Shores at the Barrister House. We hope this earlier than usual date will result in the largest turnout ever. Please mark your calendars now.

Safety Fast!
Guy

The Litter Bag

by Dan Zebarah, Editor

As I'm sitting in my basement sweltering because Marla forgot to turn on the air conditioning, my thoughts turn to what we did as kids on hot summer days: Go to the movies. Every July that I've been editor, I have reviewed the summer's films. Since summer is two months late, so are my reviews.

"Whispers in the Dark": Two lovers are stranded in a hospital quiet zone when the electrical system fries in their MG. Roseanne Arnold and Sam Kineson star.

"The Gun in Betty Lou's Handbag": Betty Lou buys a British car in an attempt to meet an eligible man. After finding that the man of her dreams is actually in love with her car, she commits a series of armed robberies to pay her repair bills.

"Mo' Money": What my car keeps telling me it needs. *(editor's note: I know this isn't a movie review, but I can't pass up a cheap joke!)*

"Honey, I Blew Up the Kid": Harold Ramis stars as a bumbling scientist who, while trying to increase the size of his MG, accidently disintegrates the family's pet goat.

"A League of Their Own": A group of British sportscar widows form a softball team. Unfortunately, none of them know a thing about the game. I found this to be a very unrealistic movie; we all know that your typical British sportscar widow doesn't have the time to play softball. She's hard at work at that second job because her husband just spent this month's house payment on parts from Moss.

"Rapid Fire": A biography of the man who designed the MGB's catalytic converter to fit right beneath the carburettor so the car would burn up whenever the converter clogged. Directed by Martin Scoredcrankjournal, who also directed "The Texas Timing Chain Massacre".

(continued on page 6)

The Can-Am Connection is published nine times a year by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, Inc. Deadlines are the 15th of the month. Contributions are welcome in either written or typed form, or on computer disk using an IBM compatable word processor.

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Vacant at this time: Any volunteers?

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In the Headlights

by Maria Zebarah, Treasurer and Gossip Columnist

Big Happy Birthday Wishes to the following people:

Derek Hanson	**Sep 1**
Allyson Hornby	**Sep 1**
Karen Ligocki	**Sep 1**
Linda Lucente	**Sep 1**
Benjamin Peters	**Sep 1**
David Zebarah	**Sep 1**
Jaimie Bondy	**Sep 2**
Diane Howe	**Sep 2**
Danielle Webb	**Sep 4**
Mark Binkley, Sr.	**Sep 5**
Dan Harton	**Sep 5**
Jennifer Hanson	**Sep 6**
David Snyder	**Sep 9**
Felicia Tortola	**Sep 9**
John Peralta	**Sep 10**
Jennifer Kollin	**Sep 14**
Mark Osowski	**Sep 16**
Bob Lendt	**Sep 17**
Brian Mitchell	**Sep 17**
Scott Sylvestre	**Sep 17**
Karen Smith	**Sep 18**
Lynn Kainz	**Sep 19**
Tom Shipley	**Sep 19**
Tiffany Tortola	**Sep 21**
Don Pope	**Sep 23**
Ron Harmon	**Sep 25**
Chris Howe	**Sep 25**
Pam Thompson	**Sep 28**
Paul Nevin	**Sep 29**
Drew Hastings	**Sep 30**
Michael Kainz	**Sep 30**

Marcy Kay Kollin was born June 13. She weighed 6 lb., 8 oz. Jay says that she's about the same size as his sister's dachshund (19 in).

They also got a new refrigerator. Mary Kay went into labor while they were shopping for it. Jay says it's a great way to close a deal!

Congratulations to all the Kollins!

WDMGC T-Shirts and Sweatshirts, as well as MG Christmas ornaments and lapel pins are now in stock! Contact your friendly regalia chairperson for full details.

Calendar of Events—1992

Note: Events in **boldface** type are WDMGC or BSCC events!
Events, dates and times subject to change without notice!

SEPTEMBER

9 (Wed)	**General Meeting, 7 p.m., Coach & Horses, Windsor**
13 (Sun)	Battle of the Brits, Freedom Hill, Sterling Heights.
18-20 (Fri-Sun)	St. Ignace In The Fall car show,St.Ignace. For more information, call Ed Reavie, (906) 643-8087.
26 (Sat)	**Joesph Lucas Night Rallye, Meet at Kelsey's restaurant, 2601 Luzon Pwy., Windsor, (519) 974-1900.**
27 (Sun)	**British Day at the Races, Waterford Hills, Clarkston. Call Larry at (313) 540-3733 for more information.**

OCTOBER

4 (Sun)	British Car Show at Deacon Brodie's, Mt.Clemens, Sponsored by the Detroit Triumph Sportscar Club.
7 (Wed)	**General Meeting, 7 p.m., La Trattoria, Dearborn**
11 (Sun)	**BSCC Fall Colour Tour/Rally, sponsored by the Michigan Austin-Healey Club**
12 (Mon)	Thanksgiving Day (Canada)

NOVEMBER

21 (Sat)	**Hibernation Party, 7 p.m., Barrister House, 21801 Harper, St. Clair Shores. Tickets MUST be purchased in advance!**
26 (Thur)	Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)

DECEMBER

25 (Fri)	Merry Christmas! Regalia makes a wonderful gift!
28 (Mon)	Boxing Day (Canada)
31 (Thur)	New Year's Eve! Please don't drink and drive!

1993

JUNE

25-27 (Thru-Sun)	MG '93, NAMBGR Convention, St.Louis, MO. For more info, write: MG Club of St. Louis, 1326 Waldron Ave. St. Louis, MO 63130 USA

Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome the following new members to our club:

Chuck Burke lives in St. Clair Shores. He is the owner of a 1979 Red MGB. Chuck is a pipefitter, and says that his travelling companion is **Tiffany**, his Old English Sheepdog. (I'm anxious to see him fit that dog in the B.)

Dale Duda lives in Shelby Township. He is the proud owner of a 1980 Vermilion MGB. Dale is an accountant.

Bob and **Beth Gibbs** live in Birmingham. Bob is a Registered Landscape Architect. He owned MGs when he was younger, and is now in the market for another one.

Mike and **Patty Murphy** live in Garden City with their children, **Patrick** and **Alicia**. They are the owners of a 1972 British Racing Green Midget. Mike is in Sales.

Jack and **Issy Renaud** live in Dearborn. Jack is an Engineer, and they own a 1979 MGB Black LE.

Ron and **Kathy Sill** live in Farmington Hills with their three daughters, **Amy, Amanda** and **Anne**. They own a 1959 Red MGA. Ron is a teacher.

Jerry and **Susan VanHoutan** live in Hillsdale with their three children, **Laura, Tracy** and **Jay**. They own three cars (three kids, three cars, is that the way it works?), two 1980 Black MGB LEs, and a 1980 Red MGB. Jerry says his occupation is a House Parent, Teacher, and Artist. I know he makes absolutely beautiful signs out of wood.

Hope you enjoy being a part of our club!

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: Aftermarket hard top with hardware, good condition, $200 or best offer. Factory hard top, good condition, with hardware, $275. Dan Zebarah, 382-6715. (ufn)

FOR SALE: British car brochures and sales ads. Jay Kollin, (313) 464-4381, after 6. (ufn)

FOR SALE: Restored 1974 MGB Roadster. contact Tom Shipley, (313) 334-3119 (3/3)

FOR SALE: MGBs:

1971, Primrose Yellow, rebuilt motor, new shocks, carpet, needs sills, $2400 obo.

1977, Primrose Yellow, Rostyles

1977, Teal Blue, Rostyles

1976, Wires, new carpet

1975, Fresh Deltron paint job, rostyles

1980, One owner, rostyles

5 Wire wheels with rear axle and front hubs for Midget, best offer.

Garey Knop, (313) 623-9039. (3/3)

FOR SALE: 1973 MGB, very restorable condition. Beautiful interior, have most parts to complete, $900 obo. Chuck Wiley, (313) 586-2500 (1/3)

FOR SALE: 1973 Midget, red, wires, new tires & top. Includes hard top. 43,000 miles, restored, $3200. John Reed, (313) 683-5642 (3/3)

FOR SALE: 1973 Midget, restored, new paint, brakes, clutch hydraulics, tonneau cover, trunk carpeting. Lee Johnson, (313) 373-3376. (1/3)

FOR SALE: 1972 Midget parts: New front bumper, door assemblies with glass, top frame, and other miscellaneous items. Lee Johnson, (313) 373-3376. (1/3)

FOR SALE: Parting out 1965 MGB: Front and rear suspension and brake parts, splined hubs for wire wheels, windscreen frame, non-removable top frame. All or part. Tom or Greg Newton, (313) 562-2377. (1/3)

FOR SALE: 1 rebuilt set of HS4 carbs, intake linkages & manifolds, choke cable and throttle cables. New air filters and housings; 1 used set of HS4 carbs with intake manifold and carb hoses; 1 radiator, new core, for early B; 1 heater core, new (with housing, beaded and painted) comes with heater motor; 1 rear axle housing (standard); 1 late trans; 1 early trans; 1 late engine '78, .030 over; 1 early block; 2 early distributors, rebuilt, 1-41491-A (17-74), 1-41288-A (46-69); Misc. gauges, oil, fuel, speedo, early & late; 3 wiper motors; 3 LH door mirrors, chrome; 1 used starter; 2 used alternators; 4 sets front calipers; 1 set rear drums; 2 rebuilt front end wishbones pivots; Misc. front end parts; 1 rack & pinion complete; 2 sets steering knuckles; 1 early model jack with wood handle (and lug wrench); 2 headlight buckets, rings, retainers, springs, etc.; 2 door handles, 1 good, 1 fair; Misc. switches and relays; 1 late model wiring loom; 2 hood pull down latches; 1 set body side mouldings - fair; 1 interior kit, autumn leaf - fair; 5 rostyle wheels. Tom Bondy, (519) 735-5781 (2/3)

FOR SALE: 1978 MGB engine completely rebuilt. Runs excellent and in show condition. In car, hear it run/drive $600. Also, like-new "street" Weber carb/intake system complete, $150. Rebuilt 4-speed trans, $300. Norm Lupo, (313) 296-0215. (3/3)

FOR SALE: (4) 6.5 x 14 bolt-on wire wheels, $800. (4) 6.5 x 14 mag wheels, $200. Rich Wroblewski, (313) 669-9507. (1/3)

WANTED: Emission control components; Air pumps, Zenith carbs, Air manifolds, gulp valves, etc., Any condition, Dan Zebarah, (313) 382-6715.

WANTED: Emission control components for Midget. Vince McQueen, (313) 383-4036 (2/3)

WANTED: Horns for MGB, both high and low notes. Guy St. John, (313) 349-3649 (2/3)

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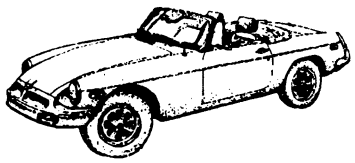

Results from University Motors' 16th annual Summer Party:

Rally by Donna Hathaway: 2nd place, **Tom & Marcia Greiner,** 1967 MGB
Model contest: 4th place, **Brad Heath** *(editor's note: Look Hayden, I know who REALLY built that model!)*
Parts contest: 5th place, **Guy St. John**
MGB-GT: 4th place, **Ann & Guy St. John**
MGB 1962-67: 1st place, **Harry Mueller** (entered by Tom Shipley), 1963 MGB
MGB 1970-72: 2nd place, **C. J. Elfont,** 1970 MGB
3rd place, **Mike Derderian,** 1972 MGB
MGB 1973-74: 6th place, **Frank Lucente,** 1974 MGB
MGB 1977-78: 2nd place, **Dave Fraidenburg,** 1977 MGB
Midget 61-74: 4th place, **Ed Fleming,** 1973 Midget
Midget 75-79: 3rd place, **Duane & Patsy Van Conant,** 1979 Midget
MGC: 5th place, **Ray & Fran Lewis,** 1969 MGC-GT
Non-MG British: 4th place, **Brett Altman,** 1979 Mini
Premier Class: 6th place, **Hayden & Brad Heath,** 1980 MGB LE
3rd place, **Drew & Jeannie Hastings,** 1978 MGB
Beater class: 4th place, **Tom & Marcia Greiner,** 1967 MGB
Cleanest Engine: 1st place, **Harry Mueller,** 1963 MGB
2nd place, **Drew & Jeannie Hastings,** 1978 MGB
Club Participation Award: The Western Michigan "Old Speckled Hen" MG Club.

Congratulations to all the winners!

Belated results fromthe WDMGC Summer Picnic parts contest:
1st place: **Guy St. John**
2nd place: **Roll Sylvestre**
3rd place: **Dan Zebarah**
Also participating were: **John Peralta, Ed Fleming, Vince McQueen, and Dave Clarke.**

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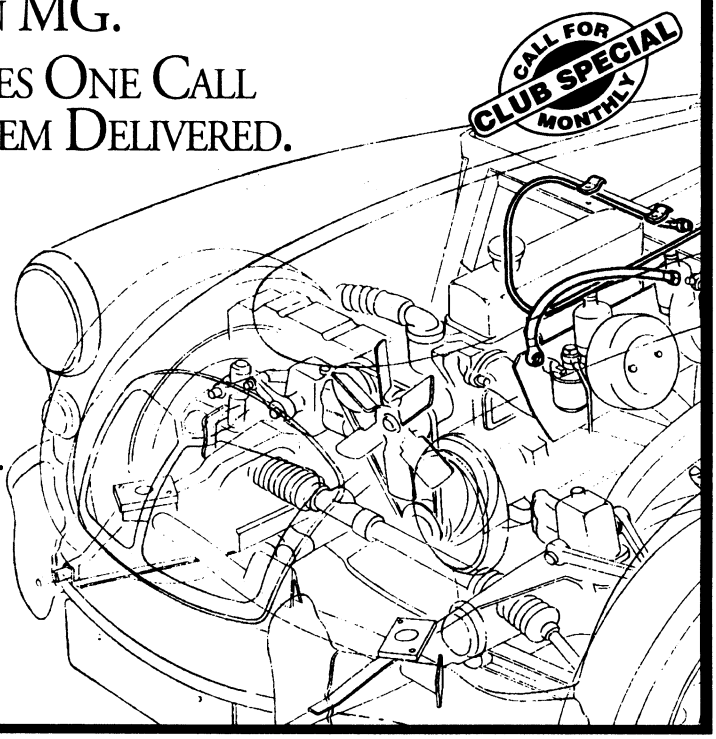

From the Editor

by Dan Zebarah, Editor

I would like to welcome Michigan Imported Cars, Inc. to our list of advertisers. They specialize in used parts and repairable wrecks for most imports, including MGs.

Two of their employees are WDMGC members, **Chuck Wiley** and **Brett Altman.** As a result, any club member presenting their membership card will receive jobber pricing. Anybody who has bought parts (which means everybody) could save a lot of cash this way. Many thanks!

On a related note: Chuck Wiley writes that he has a very nice inside storage for British cars only. He is offering cold storage for $30 per month or work storage for $45 per month.

The work storage includes one weekend a month in which the building will be heated up and some tools floor jacks and jackstands will be provided so you can work on your MG during the winter months.

This building is in very nice condition and is located in the Carleton area, about 30 minutes from Detroit.

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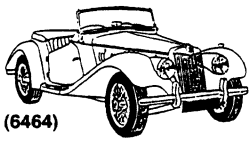

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English Day on the Green: What, no rain?

Great weather, a superb turnout, and some really nice cars were the feature at this year's English Day on the Green, held August 16 at Domino's Farms in Ann Arbor.

There were 23 WDMGC cars in attendance. As always, the MGB-Midget class was the largest on the field.

Voting was by people's choice, with the people choosing Harry Mueller's immaculate 1963 MGB, fresh out of Tom Shipley's shop. The results:

MGB-Midget:
1st: Harry Mueller, 1963 MGB
2nd: Don Kobeck, 1969 Midget
3rd: Ray Lewis, 1974 MGB-GT
4th: Fran Lewis, 1969 MGC-GT

Mini-Metro:
1st: Brett Altman, 1979 Austin Mini

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all the participants.

Hey, You!!! (yes, you!)

Nominations are being accepted for 1993 officers, as well as the annual awards given out at the Hibernation party.

If you know of a good candidate for Most Valuable Member, Rookie of the Year, Hard Luck Award, Certificates of Appriciation, or any other award you would like to cook up, contact any of the club officers by phone or in person.

The Litter Bag

(from page 2)

"Far & Away": A man buys a new car and looks at the last coupon in his payment book.

"3 Ninjas": Larry, Moe, and Curly have a pizza pie fight in a sewer. If you don't understand this, ask your children.

Member Spotlight

On the Road with Adrienne and Rich

by Rich Wagner

This year, my very generous employer gave everyone two weeks off in July. In preparation for this, additional overtime was made available, (wouldn't it be great to control your own budget like that?). As the day approached, I suggested to Adrienne that perhaps we should take my Pontiac. "You mean, you don't want to take the MG?", she replied quite surprised especially since she had just learned to drive a stick shift. Well, I finally "gave in" and began preparing our 1975 MGB for an uncertain trip east.

And what a trip it turned out to be, traveling through nine states in seven days. Driving US highways (on good days of course) takes longer, averaging only 45 miles per hour, but the destination becomes secondary to the drive. We would stop well before dark so we could enjoy the evening all cleaned up and refreshed.

Through Canada, we took highway 3 along the shore towards Niagara Falls (or so I thought). Adrienne (a.k.a. "The Navigator") routed us 100 miles further into the Finger Lakes area of New York.

Day two took us through the Adirondack Mountains stopping along the way to fix steaks on our grill. By late that same afternoon, we were nearing Lake Placid, so we stopped at a bed and breakfast. Doing this was helpful, because our host took the time to help us plan our next day's travel. On the road again, we found ourselves merging right alongside a chrome bumper MGB. Later on, we ferried across Lake Champlain into Vermont. That was neat because our MG was right at the front and, for an hour, our MG became kind of nautical transportation for us.

In no time, we traveled through all Vermont and New Hampshire and "The Navigator" headed us for Portland, Maine. Big cities at night aren't any fun to travel in and we finally found a Ramada Inn where there was only one room available: The Honeymoon Suite!

Now, whenever you get near a large city, you should carefully plan your route. Nearing Boston, Adrienne saw NO PROBLEM going straight through town on the freeway. So, reluctantly, that's what I did. We soon found ourselves snarled in traffic, sandwiched on a triple decker bridge with signs pointing everywhere. I either missed a turn or turned too early and there we were, heading who know where! Luckily for us, we were able to backtrack onto the right road. We took a long, relaxing break in Plymouth, having lunch at the park after seeing Plymouth Rock.

Continuing on, we traveled to Cape Cod, staying on a bluff overlooking Cape Cod Bay. to our surprise, there was a 1978 MGB where we stayed. The next morning, when the B's owner told me about having trouble starting his car, I couldn't resist showing off my manual choke and SU carburetor conversion.

I was both windburned and sunburned by this time, so we welcomed the cloudy skies as we began our trip home with the top up. We made a pit stop at Special Interest Car Parts in Rhode Island, where we met Karen, the sales rep who has always taken my calls.

Traveling the toll road and freeways, we continued through Connecticut and Pennsylvania into the Pocono Mountains. Looking for a place to stay, I called a place in Wilkes-Barre and was told they had rooms for $30. Driving there, I kept wondering what sort of room we were going to get for 30 bucks. After asking directions, we found ourselves at The Inn At Market Street. Looking around, we didn't see any hotel, only railroad cars. Were we spending the night on a TRAIN??

That's right, and not just any train, either! These are restored Pullman cars done in Victorian elegance with gold trimmed, red tufted headboards, antique chairs, three gold trimmed mirrors on both sides and an antique ceiling complete with a round mirror as big as the ceiling was wide. If you remember the TV show "The Wild, Wild West", then you've got some idea of what we stayed in.

There was even more! The train depot had been converted into restaurants and bars, and it was "Beer Bash Night"! For $7, we had all the ribs, shrimp, beef pasta, meatballs, peanuts and beer we wanted, plus being able to enjoy the semi-crowded atmosphere. There was a formal dining car and an 50's style diner, but hey, who goes there when there's a beer bash? The room, dinner, and drinks came to $46.80.

Heading home (550 miles), we drove straight through, stopping only long enough to stretch my legs. We made it without any car problems, but after the charley horse I got from driving for hours at highway speed, I've got new plans for my MG. Has anyone put cruise control on their MG yet?

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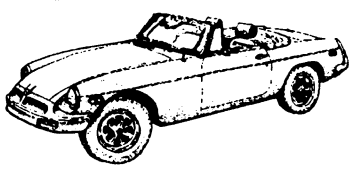
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ANNOUNCES

DEACON BRODIE'S 1st BRITISH CAR SHOW

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4th 1992

Enjoy a day at Michigans only British Pub

Located at: 35 North Rose Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

(Major Intersections Groesbeck and Cass Ave.)

Large Parking Area to display your car. Bring your British car no matter what model you have, this is a low key event.

Registration opens at 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Door Prizes and a 50/50 raffle

Discounts on PUB GRUB (food) to all Registrants

BRITISH BEERS ON DRAUGHT

BRITISH ENTERTAINMENT

Sing Along • Play Darts • 9 Hole Golf Course-Par 3

all at the same location!

Bring the whole family - there's plenty to do for all.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ No. of cars _____ Make _____ Model _____ Year ____

Advanced Registration $4.00 per car

Day of show Registation $5.00 per car

TOTAL $_____

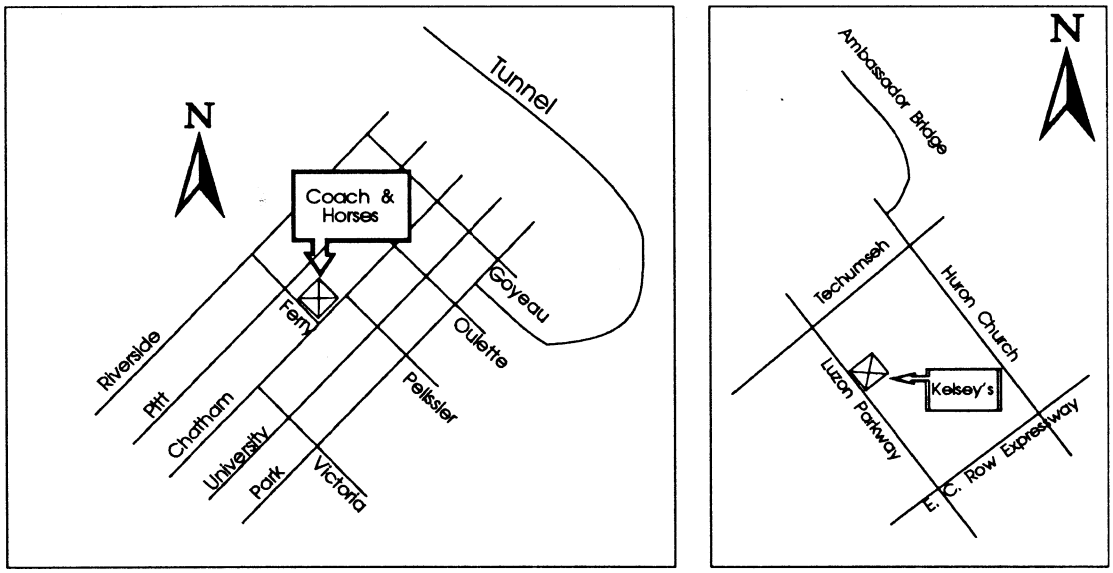
Send your registration to:

D.T.S.C. Attn: Hugh Vandervord

23643 Kim • Clinton Township, MI 48035

For Additional Information Call 790-2809

The Windsor-Detroit MG Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.: Even months at the La Trattoria Restaurant, 13736 Michigan Avenue in Dearborn, east of Schaefer, and in odd months at the Coach & Horses Pub, in the basement of The Old Fish Market Restaurant, 156 Chatham Street in Windsor just off the tunnel.



The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
1327 Austin
Lincoln Park, MI 48146
U.S.A.