THE CAN-AM CONNECTION

vol. 12 no. 9 Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club Nov.-Dec. 1992

Hey kids, what time is it?

# It's Time to Hibernate!

This year's hibernation party will be held on Saturday, November 21 at the Barrister House in St. Clair Shores. This is where we elect our officers for the coming year, give our annual awards, and bid farewell to another year of MGing.

The party starts at 7:30, with dinner at 8. Dress is casual. *(editor's note: I don't know about anyone else, but I'm wearing jeans!)*

There will be also be a raffle, in addition to the door prizes. First prize will be a jacket from AutoGraphics, and second prize will be a beautiful lap robe.

This event has been put together by John Peralta and Holly Orlowski. If you want to help please give them a call. This is always the best attended event of the year and we need your help!

**Lost??? There is a map on page 6!**

**General Meeting dates:**
**Wed., November 11, Coach & Horses**
**Wed., December 9, La Trattoria**

# Colour Tours Well-Attended, Despite Wintery Weather

**by Ed Fleming**

Not just one, but TWO color tours a week apart, and wouldn't you know, the weather was wet and cold for both. Color this year's color tours light grey and dark grey.

The first tour was the BSCC event on October 11. Once again, the WDMGC had the most participants. Attending were: **Tom & Marcia Greiner, Guy St. John, Ed Fleming, Matt & Judy Oles, Norm Lupo,** and **Mark & Jane Osowski** accompanied by their two kids in Mark's MGB.

We met at Oakland University's Meadowbrook campus and traveled first to the Paint Creek Cider Mill for cider (naturally) and donuts. As we left the cider mill, the Vintage VW Club of Michigan was pulling in. I wonder how many other car clubs stopped there?

We headed out over hill and dale through northern and western Oakland County filled with great fall colours. Although the day started grey, the sun came out during the tour to highlight the foliage.

Only one Austin Healey started the tour despite the fact that the Healey Club sponsored it. A few more showed up at the finish at the Great American Diner in White Lake including the peripatetic Brian Thorton, who started the day in Cincinnati in his green Healey 3000. The bug-eye Sprite he was with couldn't start, so he was a few hours late getting back to Michigan. This is the same guy who drove his Sprite to Colorado and back this summer.

On October 18, the weather was cold (38 degrees, 3 Celsius) and rainy with a prediction from the weather man that it would clear by early afternoon. It didn't. When I backed the Midget out of the garage, there was a light mist in the air, so I left the top down. However, by the time I got to Guy and Ann St John's house (about 7 miles), it was raining so the hood went up.

Meanwhile, Tom Greiner had gone to the gas station to gas up his '67B with the top down and got soaked. When the St. Johns and I arrived, Tom and Marcia

*(continued on page 5)*

# Deacon Brodie's Car Show a Big Hit

**by Carmen Rivera and Holly Orlowski**

The first annual Deacon Brodie's British Car Show was held on October 4th. Bright, beautiful weather was the call for the day, with just enough bite in the air to drive you into Deacon Brodie's, which is a family-owned tavern. Brodie's provided live, and at times loud, Irish and Scottish music and sing-a-longs. American beer and English Ale were also provided to ward off the chill, for a price of course.

Approximately 35 British cars attended the show, 8 of which were MGs, ranging from a 1948 TD to a 1979 B. Showing their cars were **John Peralta** and **Sonny Graat,** with **Matt Oles** showing up to support his club members and see some classic cars. (Pardon me if I missed any members, but I'm not Marla.) *(Editor's note: few people are!)*

The cars were categorized by their make and the judging done by people's choice. Placing 2nd was John Peralta with his 1979 B, but he was not alone. Earning himself $33.50 (U.S.), with the winning ticket of the 50/50 raffle, was Sonny Graat.

Congratulations to both Sonny and John.

## Season's Greetings!

The officers of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club would like to wish everyone a pleasant and safe holiday season!

**Guy & Ann St. John**
**Frank & Linda Lucente**
**Dan & Marla Zebarah**
**Roli & Betty Sylvestre**
**Jay & Mary Kay Kollin**
**Gary & Diane Howe**
**Otto & Judy Pope**

# Behind the Wheel

**by Guy St.John, President**

I can't believe it's over! It's never long enough, and with the cool summer, it seemed shorter than usual. We wrapped up a busy year with a typically glorious Michigan/Ontario autumn, and for those who couldn't join us for one of the organized colour tours, I certainly hope you got out in the MG and enjoyed mother nature's wonderful gift.

October's Natter & Noggin at La Trattoria was well-attended with over 30 members and guests, including Del Lesperance, president of the Detroit Triumph Sportscar Club.

At November's meeting in Windsor, we will focus on any last-minute details for the hibernation party and look at ideas for winter projects and events. Our monthly meetings will continue on the same schedule throughout the winter months, so please make an effort to join us for the camaraderie and lively discussion on all manner of things MG. The officers of the club need your input, your ideas, and your opinions to help us plan the events and activities for the upcoming year. However, you don't have to wait for a meeting. If you have an idea to share or a question, please don't hesitate to call any officer.

Finally, let me say it has been a real pleasure serving as your president this past year. The variety and success of this year's events could not have been possible without the enthusiastic help of the officers and members, volunteers who gave so generously to make the year so much fun.

Safety Fast!
Guy

P.S. Santa, see Roli and Jay for all those hard to shop for MG enthusiasts on your list!

# The Litter Bag

**by Dan Zebarah, Editor**

*"What a long, strange trip it's been!"*
*The Grateful Dead—"Truckin'"*

Well, this is my final "Can-Am Connection". It seems hard to believe that it has been four years since I took the position of editor. It has been fun and it has been a headache. It has been easy and it has been hard. It has been exhilarating and it has been exhausting. It has been rewarding and it has been a hassle. But most of all, it has been beneficial to the club, and that is what I set out to do when I started.

The club's membership has more than doubled in these four years. Attendance at meetings is quite high. There will be about 100 members at the hibernation party, opposed to the 15 or 20 in 1988, when I accepted this position.

First and foremost, I want to thank **Marla** (of course) for her support and effort in keeping me in line and doing all the things for which people keep giving ME credit.

I also want to thank **Lisa** and **David Zebarah**, who gave me the opportunity (more than once) to put off my deadlines so I could watch cartoons with them.

We have made many friends through the club, and to many of them I owe much gratitude:

**Hayden & Ann Heath**, who were the driving force in the club (pun intended) and was instrumental in the resurgence of the club. Hayden also made a wonderful straight man.

**Frank & Linda Lucente**, who were always there when I needed a hand before I realized that I needed one.

**Dave & Gayle Clarke**, who took far more teasing from me than anyone else and STILL organized a rally every year. By the way, Dave: You can send that article you owe me to Ed.

**Guy & Ann St. John**, who probably stay up at night wondering how they got tangled up with a wacko like me.

**Jon Motschall** and **Mel Eisenberg** of James Motschall Printing, for letting me cash in all those favors when I needed them.

**Ed Fleming**, for accepting the editor's post.

**Edna Fleming**, for letting him.

**Roli & Betty Sylvestre**, for teaching me creative ways of circumventing Customs.

*(continued on page 7)*

**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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# In the Headlights

**by Marla Zebarah, Treasurer and Gossip Columnist**

Happy Birthday Wishes to the following people:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Angela Murphy** | Nov 1 |
| **Patrick Werner** | Nov 4 |
| **Edna Fleming** | Nov 6 |
| **Mike Principe** | Nov 6 |
| **Roberta Sand** | Nov 6 |
| **Jeannie Hastings** | Nov 7 |
| **Maureen Kaufman** | Nov 7 |
| **Patrick Trofin** | Nov 9 |
| **Michael Hacker** | Nov 10 |
| **Keith Nelson** | Nov 10 |
| **Kerrie Pinten** | Nov 13 |
| **Joyce Pinten** | Nov 13 |
| **Susan Schultz** | Nov 13 |
| **Pete Tortola** | Nov 13 |
| **Jay VanHoutan** | Nov 13 |
| **Guy St. John** | Nov 17 |
| **Jeff Newton** | Nov 19 |
| **Laura Mann** | Nov 21 |
| **Lance Rutherford** | Nov 22 |
| **Mark Uhlig** | Nov 23 |
| **Norm Macika** | Nov 24 |
| **Tracy VanHoutan** | Nov 25 |
| **Laurie Wroblewski** | Nov 28 |
| **Patrick Murphy** | Dec 1 |
| **Matt Oles** | Dec 1 |
| **Sally Wroblewski** | Dec 2 |
| **Jane Boot-Osowski** | Dec 6 |
| **Barb Binkley** | Dec 8 |
| **Jan Low** | Dec 8 |
| **Judy Monroe** | Dec 8 |
| **Irene Klsh** | Dec 10 |
| **Jack Renaud** | Dec 10 |
| **Nicholas Ligocki** | Dec 11 |
| **Kim Rutherford** | Dec 11 |
| **Lorrie Campbell** | Dec 12 |
| **Nathan Mitchell** | Dec 13 |
| **Michele Ostini** | Dec 13 |
| **Adrienne Wagner** | Dec 13 |
| **David Ruch** | Dec 14 |
| **Kristi Lahners** | Dec 14 |
| **Carly Singer** | Dec 14 |
| **Dave Fraidenburg** | Dec 15 |
| **Nicole Ligocki** | Dec 15 |
| **Sandy Stoyshin** | Dec 16 |
| **John Van Dyk** | Dec 16 |
| **Jim Hine** | Dec 20 |
| **Suzanne Folz** | Dec 21 |
| **Aaron Pillon** | Dec 21 |
| **Stephanie Connor** | Dec 22 |
| **Erik Fleming** | Dec 22 |
| **David Hanson** | Dec 22 |
| **Paul Thomas III** | Dec 23 |
| **Vince McQueen** | Dec 24 |
| **Jill Singer** | Dec 24 |
| **Dawn Folz** | Dec 25 |
| **Susan VanHoutan** | Dec 26 |
| **Mark Binkley, Jr.** | Dec 29 |
| **Lauren Hunt** | Dec 30 |
| **Holly Orlowski** | Dec 30 |
| **Kathy Sill** | Dec 31 |
| **Dan Zebarah** | Dec 31 |

We would also like to wish the following people a Happy Birthday. We don't know when their birthdays are, but we know they had one this year! So Happy Birthday to: **Lindsey Coleman, Neil Coleman, Edna Elfont, Matthew Leighton, Jan Reed, Dawn West and Mary Wiley!** We hope it was happy (no matter when it was, and no matter how old you were!).

# Calendar of Events—1992

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

## NOVEMBER

| | |
|---|---|
| **7 (Sat)** | Liquidation Sale at Coventry West, 3007 John R, Madison Heights, between 12 and 13 Mile Roads.Call (313) 585-8622. |
| **11 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, Coach & Horses** |
| **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

| | |
|---|---|
| **9 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, La Trattoria** |
| **20 (Sun)** | **Happy Hanukkah! Mazeltov!** |
| **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

## JANUARY

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (Fri) | Happy New Year! |
| **13 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, Coach & Horses** |

## FEBRUARY

| | |
|---|---|
| **10 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, La Trattoria** |

## MARCH

| | |
|---|---|
| **10 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, Coach & Horses** |

## APRIL

| | |
|---|---|
| **14 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, La Trattoria** |

## MAY

| | |
|---|---|
| **12 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, Coach & Horses** |
| **?? (???)** | **BSCC Spring Rallye** |

## JUNE

| | |
|---|---|
| **9 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, La Trattoria** |
| **25-27 (Thur-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 |

## JULY

| | |
|---|---|
| **14 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, Coach & Horses** |
| **15-18 (Thur-Sun)** | GOF Central, Sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the New England MGT Registry, Ann Arbor. Contact Dick Bremer, (313) 662-9028, for details. |

## AUGUST

| | |
|---|---|
| **11 (Wed)** | **General Meeting, La Trattoria** |
| **??(???)** | **English Day on the Green** |
| **27-29 (Fri-Sun)** | University Motors' Annual Summer Party, Grand Rapids. |

# Classified Ads

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

**FOR SALE:** 1973 MGB, very restorable condition. Beautiful interior, have most parts to complete, $900 obo. Chuck Wiley, (313) 586-2500 (2/3)

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

**WANTED:** Solid, restorable, or restored A-H Sprite Mk.I or Mk IV, MG Midget Mk III, or MGB (1967 or earlier). Will Zehring, (313) 577-4199 or (313) 885-4180. (1/3)

**FOR SALE:** 1973 MGB-GT, Teal Blue. Mechanically sound, interior excellent, Weber and headers, needs body work. $1700 o.b.o. Dave Howard, 565-6134.

**FOR SALE:** Mikuni side draft carbs plus manifold for 1800 engine, $200. Will Zehring, (313) 577-4199 or (313) 885-4180. (2/3)

**FOR SALE:** Water pump for '72-'74 MGB. New in box, $20. Otto Pope, (313) 271-3225. (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. (3/3)

**FOR SALE:** MGA parts: Fenders, doors, trunk lids, disc wheels, hubcaps, dress rings, side curtains, heater, tail lamp housing for 1600, steel dash, steering racks. Good prices. Tom Newton, (313) 562-2377. (1/3)

**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. (3/3)

**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 (3/3)


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## Colour Tours

*(from page 1)*

were trying to stretch the top to the windshield—to no avail. So the MG stayed in the garage and their other B (as in "Buick") went to Windsor.

Several other club members drove their "other" cars on this event as well. In all, 23 people attended.

We caravaned our way from the Windsor Tourist Bureau along the Detroit River, past Bob-Lo island, to the north shore of Lake Erie, and on to Thiessen's Orchard. Those of us in the MGs especially appreciated the HOT cider along with other delights like fritters, caramel apples, hot dogs, and great homemade sausage.

On the way back, a few of us stopped at Tweeds, Tartans, and Things, a Scottish apparel shop where many purchased were made. Others stopped at Colasanti's Orchard and Greenhouse.

A good, if somewhat soggy, time was had by all.

## Welcome New Members!

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

**Norm** and **Gladys Abell** live in Sterling Heights. They own a 1977 Green Midget. Norm is a teacher.

**Philip** and **Helen Fischer** live in Plymouth with their daughter Jennifer. Philip owns a 1975 British Racing Green MGB. He is retired.

**Tony** and **Dawn Frassetto** live in Dearborn. They joined us at our October meeting at La Trattoria. They are the proud owners of a 1959 Red MGA. Tony is a designer.

**John** and **Maureen Kaufman** live in Lambertville with their children, **Heather** and **John III**. John is an Emergency Response Specialist. They own a 1974 Red MGB.

**George** and **Jan Low** live in Newport. George's travelling companion will be his son **John**. They also have two more children, **Sarah** and **David**. George is a Flight Engineer. He owns a 1972 Butterscotch MGB.

**Bruce** and **Dottie Ridley** live in Whitmore Lake. They own a 1970 Lime Green Midget. (Bruce says that is not an original colour - it was that way when he bought the car!). Bruce is an Automotive Supervisor.

Hope you enjoy being a part of our club!

By the way, since this time last year, our membership has increased from 96 to 145. This is an increase of 45%! WOW!

*—Marla Zebarah*

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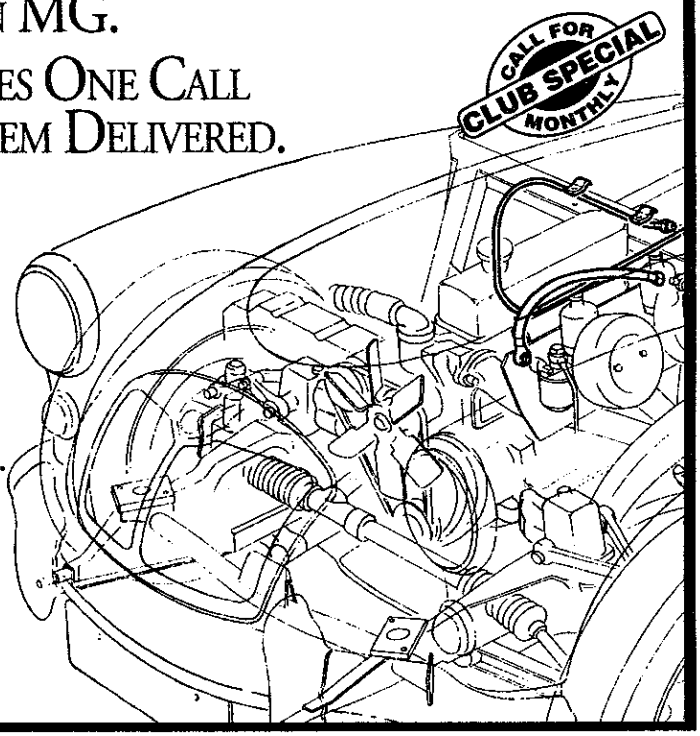
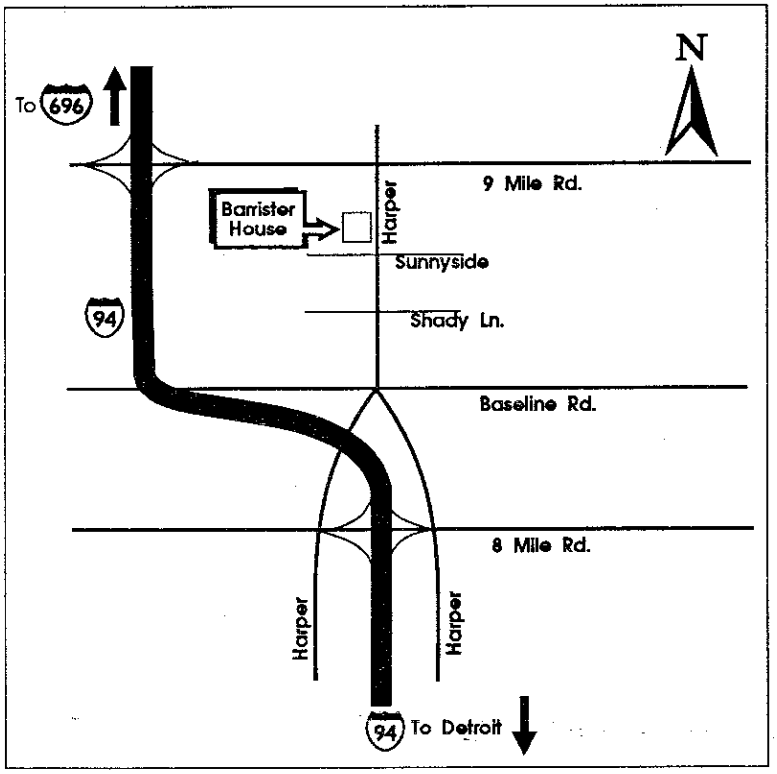


# 1992 Hibernation Party

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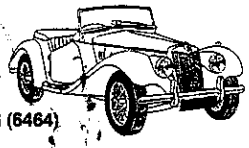

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# Spares & Parts

## Parts is Parts? Maybe not!

**by Otto Pope**
*Spares and Parts Chairman*

When most of us need parts or accessories for our MGs, we pick up our latest copy of the parts catalog that we feel comfortable with: Moss Motors, Roadster Factory, Special Interest Car Parts or Victoria British and place an order. By comparison shopping the catalogs we can get the best retail catalog prices. However, if you look a little further, you may find some real bargains. A number of small suppliers, N.O.S. Locators, World Upholstery and Trim, Sports and Classic Parts, Northwest Import Parts, etc. advertise a number of items in *Hemmings Motor News* at very attractive prices. They do not offer catalogs and some items are in limited supply. In addition, some of the "Big" mail order suppliers, mentioned above, offer sale items not advertised elsewhere, at substantial savings.

Some examples are: MGB carpet sets $89 to $113, MGB fill interior trim panel set $149, convertible tops $129, electric fuel pumps $50 and windshield for MGB or Midget $48. Most of the discounted parts are made by the same suppliers that supply the big catalog companies, and if you do not like the merchandise you can return it. I have placed several orders with these small suppliers and never been disappointed.

Don't forget the old stand-by, J.C. Whitney and Company. They sell a high quality "custom tailored" car cover, "... made from one of their 28,000 patterns, to fit your MG perfectly", for $87.95, with storage bag. This is a good quality cover for a very good price. They also have a number of miscellaneous parts that will fit an MG. However, they quality runs from very good to very bad. Good luck.

## This just in . . .

Rumor has it that Roli Sylvestre actually started his GT! Next thing you know, we'll actually see it at an event.

By the way, Betty's Austin is still in need of brakes.

## Litter Bag

*(from page 2)*

**D Zimmerman**, editor for the Emerald Necklace MG Register, for letting me know that EVERY editor goes through the same things.

The list goes on: **Tom & Marcia, Reggie & Deb, John & Holly, Phil & Jan, Tom & Sandie, Jay & Mary Kay, Lou & Linda, Mark & Jane**, and everybody else I forgot (this means **YOU**).

It's hard to believe I won't be crunching another deadline, taking flak for (yet) another erroneous map, or on the phone trying to get the details for an event hours before I go to press.

It's hard to believe I won't be hustling ads, staying up all night writing articles, and busting my tail making sure that I didn't misspell anybody's name.

It's hard to believe I won't be conning the kids into helping me stuff newsletters, getting paper cuts, or stapling my fingers together.

It's hard to believe I'll miss it.

But I will.

**To my WDMGC friends:**

**Thanks for a wonderful four years of support!**

## Windsor-Detroit MG Club Regalia

| Item: | Price: U.S. | Canadian |
|---|---|---|
| MG Logo Christmas Ornaments | $5.00 | $6.00 |
| Club Logo Sweatshirts (Limited sizes & colours) | $15.00 | $17.00 |
| Club Logo Baseball Cap (Assorted Colours) | $5.00 | $6.00 |
| Club Logo T-Shirts | $8.00 | $9.50 |
| Hat Pins (U.S./Canadian Flags, U.S./British Flags) | $3.00 | $3.75 |
| MG Logo Belt Buckles | $5.00 | $6.00 |
| MG Logo Leather Belts | $9.00 | $11.00 |
| Christmas Cards, box of 20 (depicts red c/b MGB with Santa driving; inside reads: "Oh, what fun it is to drive!") | $11.00 | $13.00 |
| Club Logo Jackets | $20.00 | $26.50 |
| Club Logo Golf Shirts | $16.00 | $21.00 |
| MG Logo Beer Mug | $3.00 | $3.75 |

Items are available from either club regalia ch[illegible] details) All items may not be available fror

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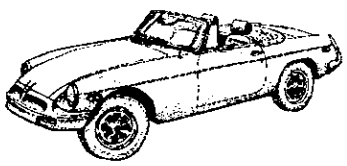
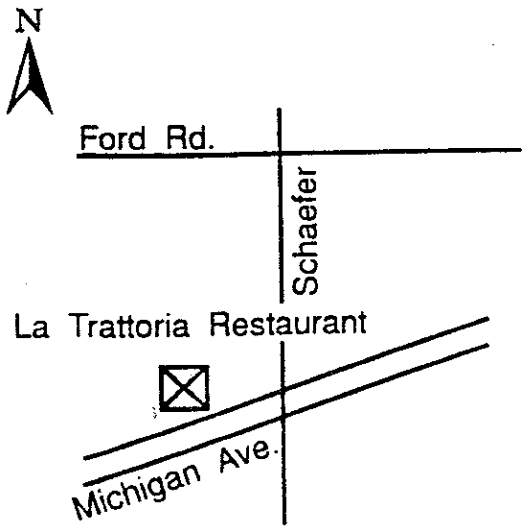
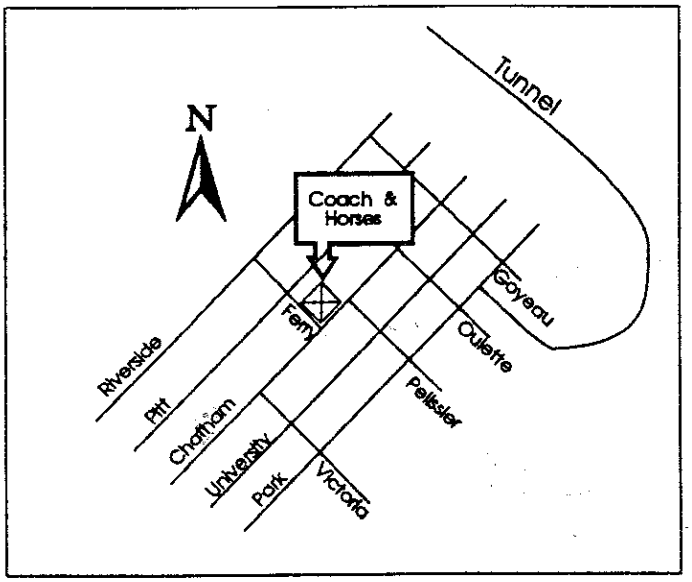


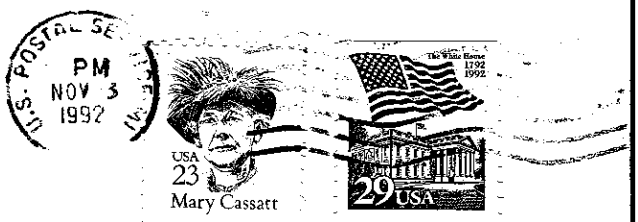
- Complete Refinishing
- Collision Repairs
- Skilled Painting & Color Matching
- Free Estimates
- Prompt & Reliable Service
- Insurance Work
- Rust Repairs
- Polishing & Waxing
- Restorations

**Thomas Shipley**

**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**