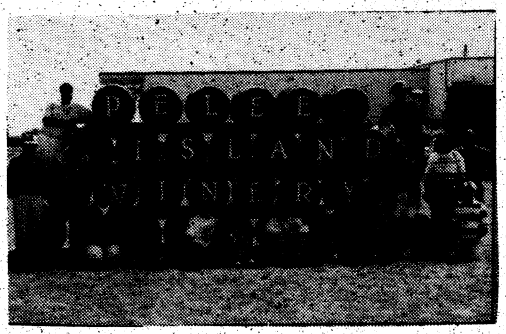
# The Can Am CONNECTION

WINDSOR-DETROIT

Vol. 14, Number 7 -The Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club- September, 1994



**Above Left:** After a full day of driving and drinking (ok, actually sipping since this club would never drink and drive) and history, the group huddles in front of the Dock Restaurant. **Above Middle:** Same group, in front of the Pelee Island Winery. Winery manager wouldn't let us park our cars in the weeds (excuse me on the lawn) in front of the sign so we rearranged the barrels to read "We Peed in the wine" when we left. **Above Right:** Fort Malden Cadet about to demonstrate the firing of his musket.

## Wine, Wandering and Waterfront Dining

Sixteen peripatetic club members met at Tim Horton's (hasn't that been a clue on several Canadian rallies?) Donut Shop in Windsor for the start of a full day of activities.

After fortifying ourselves against the early morning chill with coffee and donuts, Roli Sylvestre took us on a caravan along the Detroit River to Historic Fort Malden where we learned about Canadian and U.S. history. We discovered first hand how British Solders lived in the early eighteen hundreds (four men to a bunk, the same bucket used in the morning as a toilet was used in the evening to wash dishes etc.).

We also watched a demonstration of the 18 steps involved in firing an early 19th century British musket. Strangely, they work just like British cars. That is about 8 out of 10 times on a good day, 4 out of 10 times on a bad day, not in the rain and they smoke a lot.

From Fort Malden we ventured south to the Pelee Island Winery were we learned the ins and outs of the snooty member of the "Flammable Food Group". We were given a tour of the storage and bottling areas and a video of the growing and harvesting operations, followed by a wine tasting session, which seemed to be the most enthusiastically approved part of the tour.

Suitably fueled, we pointed our cars in a generally easterly direction, following Roli again and soon found ourselves at the Dock Restaurant on the water along the northern shore of Lake Erie.

A word or two of advice about the parking lot of the Dock. First, there are industrial strength speed bumps about every 20 feet, which the underside of several of the MGs found. Several members had their traveling companions get out to raise the ground clearance while negotiating this section. (Just so I don't get nasty letters, this was more a comment on the ground clearance and spring condition of our cars than on the ballast of the navigators.) Second, park along the perimeter of the lot,next to the lake only if you intend to wash your car, as the waves often crashed over the railing and unto the cars along the waterfront. We all found a safe area up against the restaurant and away from the waves.

The vagabonds for this trip included **Ed & Edna Fleming with their '73 Midget, Matt Houser & his sister Cheryl in his '74 B-GT, Dan & Beth Kirby in their '75 Midget, Roli & Betty Sylvestre in their '70 B-GT, Dave & Gayle Clarke in their '72 B, Ray & Fran Lewis in their '74 B-GT, Herb & Tina Jensen in their '66 B and Dave Reed and friend Marti in his '78 B.** You'll notice that every car in our caravan was an MG! This may be the first club event I've been to that didn't include at least one LTD, Van, VW, Triumph etc.

**Roli Sylvestre** really put on a great, laid back afternoon of fun, good roads, interesting places to visit, plenty of opportunities to converse with other club members, and we all learned a thing or two about U.S. - Canadian history, wine and MG ground clearance. Thanks Roli!

**Upcoming Events**
**Mark Your Calendars**

**Sept. 11 Battle of the Brits**
**Sept. 14 Monthly Meeting-Windsor**
**Sept. 17 Lucas Night Rally**
**Sept. 18 English Day at the Races-**
**Waterford Hills Racetrack**
**Sept. 18 British Car Day**
**-Burlington, ON**
**Sept. 23 Rally of the Small Pines**
**-Southern Ontario**

**For Latest Information Call The Club Hot Line**
**(810) 305-WDMG**

The Can-Am Connection is published 9 times a year by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, Inc., 8905 Napier Rd., Northville, MI 48167, USA.
Contributions are welcome in either written or IBM Wordperfect form.

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# Safety Fast!

**Ed Fleming, Editor**

What a trip! Fellow Midget owner, Dan Kirby and I ran the University Motor's Marathon Rally August 18th & 19th. The numbers almost speak for themselves: 1,047 mile, 4 states, 38 gallons of gas, 4 quarts of oil, 4,000 - 4,500 RPM continuously for almost 22 straight hours.

We had planned to run Dan's '75 Midget (taller gearing - lower revs and higher top speed), but its waterpump bailed out on the way to Grand Rapids, so a quick call to my insurance agent and a new left headlight to replace my faulty Lucas low beam and we were on the way in my '73 Midget.

Last year Dan ran this marathon around Lake Michigan with his brother and this year's event was billed as a rally around "the lake". So Dan & I prepared by getting detailed maps of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin and Chicago. However, when Rallymaster Jim Pesta gave us the command to open the instruction envelopes we discovered that we were going around an "unspecified lake in Ohio"! We had to find the shortest distance between checkpoints in Alma, Tecumseh, and South Haven, Michigan, Celina and Bellefontaine, Ohio, Walton, Kentucky, and Loogootee and Crawfordsville, Indiana! Ohio?! Kentucky?! We didn't even bring Kentucky or Ohio maps!

After our initial shock we plotted out a course for Alma and headed out into the evening, with the low sun to our backs. At the first checkpoint we met up with the Smiths and their tricked out B-GT with 6 lights and serious rally equipment. I checked their odometer and discovered that they had covered 100.8 miles to our 99.8. Shortly after they left, an MGA arrived with 108 miles. We were already 1 to 8 miles ahead of two competitors on raw mileage (not counting any correction factors), and feeling pretty confident.

The Union 76 station only had an Ohio map, and not a very good one, and we had our Michigan county map book, so we took a break, grabbed a hamburger at the fast food place next door and planned out our attack.

Being a diabetic, I also had to make plans for balancing my insulin intake, calorie burning, and food intake. My plan was simple, take a small shot of long acting insulin and fast for the rest of the trip, living on diet coke (no calories and lots of caffeine). I lost about 5 or 6 pounds over the next 20 hours. Could be a new diet book here, "the Safety Fast Diet - Stay up all night driving your MG and don't eat anything-lose 5 pounds in less than a day!

We then headed to Tecumseh, MI west of Monroe, looking for a book store or truck stop to get a better Ohio map.

By the time we got to Tecumseh it was dark, with a full moon shinning brightly. At the Speedway station we learned that the MGA was about an half hour ahead of us. We headed out , still looking for a good Ohio map, which we finally found at a 24 hour Kmart.

Next stop, Celina, Ohio. Mileage dropped to 26 MPG, and another quart of oil consumed. Then a quick 56 mile run to Bellefontaine, Ohio, where we discovered that we were now an hour and a half behind the A. Our average speed was only 41.8 MPH and if this rally was 1000 miles in 22 hours we had to average over 45 MPH! Time to increase the RPM and make tracks, Next stop: Walton, Kentucky.

From Walton we headed west toward Louisville. We were on our way back to Grand Rapids, this marathon was about half over. The sun was coming up and the scenery was spectacular along the Ohio River. But with the sun came fog, which dogged us for another hour, into Indiana and Highway 150. Highway 150, west of Louisville is now a recent addition to my list of great roads to drive. For about an hour and a half we followed 150 over hills and around corners (some 2nd gear corners). This part of the trip was the most fun.

(continued on page 8)

MGB DRIVER

Acknowledged as the leading source of information for all MGB and Midget owners, *MGB DRIVER*, a 60 page bi-monthly publication, comes packed with technical and historical information about your car. Subscriptions are $25 per year. For a sample copy, send $4 to P.O. Box MGB, Akin, IL 62805, or call 1-800-NAMGBR-1

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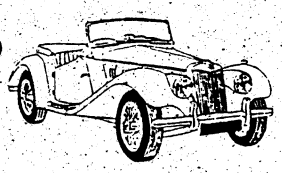

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# Worn Out Wheels

**by Guy St. John, President**

I was really disappointed that Ann and I couldn't attend Keith Nelson's Ice Cream Run and Roli Sylvestre's Wine Tasting Tour, but we were on our 1000 mile camping trip though Northern Michigan in the '68 roadster. MG's are a great way to see this beautiful country and I would especially recommend our last year's trip through the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Smokey Mountain National Park with its awesome views and perfect MG roads.

All the reports back from these two new events were very positive, good turnouts and a continuation of our great luck with the weather this year. (Probably shouldn't have said that...) Look for more "cruisin" next year and don't forget the upcoming colour tour in October, we really want to thank Keith and Harriet, and Roli and Betty for the fine efforts.

Once again, John Twist's UML Summer Party just keeps getting bigger and better. Our club's attendance was at its usual high level both in quality and quantity and we took home lots of plaques and ribbons. I especially want to thank all of you who helped out. Marla and Dan for the food, canopy and club table, Phil Wiltshire and Tom Newton for cooking the hot dogs and everyone who took turns manning the club table. We sold lots of the new grill badges and passed out quite a few applications.

Ann and I are putting the finishing touches on this year's Lucas Night Rally planned for September 17th. This year's route will be in the western Detroit suburbs around the Northville, Plymouth, Ann Arbor area. Expect a few new twists thrown in. Hope you can join us and don't forget you flash lights!!

It's already time to start thinking about our annual elections. Nominations are being accepted for the four elected offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The only office vacant as of this writing is that of President. If you are interested in running for any of the offices or know of someone who is make your nomination known. The deadline is October 1st.

My years as president of this wonderful club have been fun and regarding, but it's time to move on to other things and let some fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm propel our rapidly growing club through the rest of the 90's so if you have some time to spare, why not turn your love of MGs into a piece of club history?

Please join us at the Embers Restaurant in Windsor September 14th for the monthly meeting, come early, the food's really good with generous portions.

P.S. Both Roli and Jay have a good supply of the new grill badges, get yours now before they're gone.

See you on the road. Safety Fast!

Guy


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John Pere, WDMGC Member


# We want to wish a HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following people:

**By Marla Zebarah**

| | |
|---|---|
| Laurie Worthington | Sep 15 |
| Mark Osowski | Sep 16 |
| Bob Lendt | Sep 17 |
| Brian Mitchell | Sep 17 |
| Scott Sylvestre | Sep 17 |
| John Pere | Sep 18 |
| Stacy Fischer | Sep 18 |
| Jennifer Jensen | Sep 19 |
| Lynn Kainz | Sep 19 |
| Tom Shipley | Sep 19 |
| Tiffany Tortola | Sep 21 |
| Ron Harmon | Sep 25 |
| Mary Kish | Sep 25 |
| Kevin Kurth | Sep 29 |
| Michael Kainz | Sep 30 |
| Jennifer Trofin | Oct 1 |
| Greg MacLean | Oct 3 |
| Emily Hunt | Oct 4 |
| Sandie Newton | Oct 4 |
| Philip Wiltshire | Oct 4 |
| JoAnn Mitchell | Oct 5 |
| Tommy Shipley | Oct 7 |
| Timothy Sokolowski | Oct 7 |
| Colleen Cavanagh | Oct 9 |
| Bruno Kaija | Oct 9 |
| Dave Hornby | Oct 10 |
| Kevin Kosbab | Oct 10 |
| Judy Pope | Oct 11 |
| Carol Hacker | Oct 12 |
| Jennifer Larwa | Oct 13 |
| Jacqui Wooten | Oct 13 |

# ...Father of the intermittent wiper

# A's, B's, And A Brand New Midget!

**By Marla Zebarah**

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

**Logan Aschom** lives in Clawson. He owns a 1960 BRG MGA and a 1973 Red MGB. Logan is a Sales Rep, and he heard about our club from **Import Auto**.

**Tom** and **Tammy Chiaravalli** live in Walled Lake with their children, **Anthony** and **Nina**. They own a 1980 Black MGB-LE. Tom is in Sales. They heard about our club through **British Motor Cars**.

**Joe** and **Barbara Ciaramitaro** live in Detroit with their children, twins **Joe III** and **Kristy**. They own a 1973 White Midget. Joe is in the Auto Repair Field. They heard about our club from **Otto Pope**.

**Marshall** and **Frances Coulter** live in Chesterfield. They own a 1980 BRG MGB. Marshall is in the Preschool/Day Care Business. They found out about our club from **English Motors**.

**Terry** and **Judy Frisch** live in Waterford with their daughter, **Monica**. They own a 1959 MGA, which is being restored, and a 1979 Black MGB-LE. Terry is an Architect. They heard about our club from **Ed Fleming**.

**Chris** and **Cathy Mandas** live in Novi with their two daughters, **Cassie** and **Katie**. They own a 1974 Red MGB. Chris is a Regional Sales Manager. They heard about us through **Chuck Wiley**.

**Tom** and **Chris Mator, Jr.** live in Gibraltar with their children, **Amy** and **Tom**. Tom is a Journeyman Machinist. They own a 1974 1/2 White MGB. They heard about the club from **Brett Altman**.

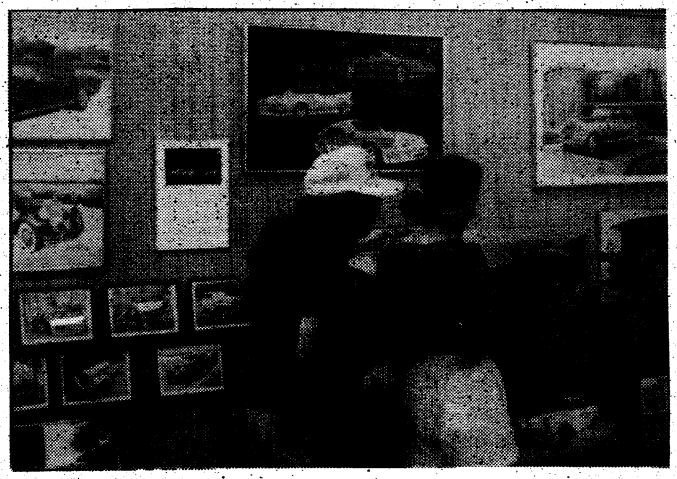
**Ralph Sirlin** and **Kate Bush** own a 1960 Ivory MGA. Ralph is an Attorney. They live in Detroit.

**Annette** and **David Wooten** live in Northville with their daughter **Jacqui**. They own a 1980 Black MGB-LE. Annette is a Manager of Software. They heard about our club from **Tom Mitchell**.

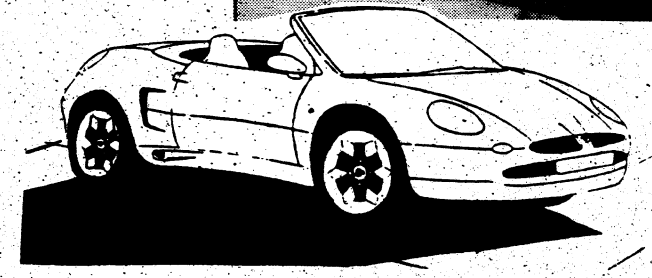
Hope you enjoy being a part of our club!

As of the day I'm writing this to give it to Ed (August 18), we have 169 member families for 1994.

We also would like to welcome the newest "Midget" in the club! **David, Joyce and Alyssa Torby** are proud to announce the birth of **Michelle Elizabeth Torby** on July 19 at 10:08 p.m. Michelle weighed 6 lbs, 13 oz. and was 21" long. Congratulations to the whole Torby family!



**Left Side, top to bottom:** Keith Nelson, Harriet West and "Yesterday's Collection" Ice Cream Shop owner Harold. Phil Wiltshire & Ed Fleming attempting to abscond with valuable MG merchandise. **Right Side, top to bottom:** Tom and Marcia Greiner checking out the many car posters. Ed & Edna Fleming and Dean & Flora Wheeler, throw caution to the wind and consume a combined 7,842 calories (approximately).



## New MG Midget Is A Go!

The PR3 is scheduled to be launched at the Geneva Auto Show in early 1995 and go on sale in Europe the following June. The soft-top will be followed one year later by a targa - T-top model.

Two K series engines will power the little roadster, a basic 1.8 liter with 140 horsepower and a hotter high tech 1.8 liter with variable valve timing, 170 HP, 140 MPH top speed, and 0-60 in less than 7.0 seconds. Mounted midship, the engine drives the rear wheels. The front air intake and traditional MG grill feed the front mounted radiator. Side scoops provide fresh air to the powerplant.

Dr Wolgand Reitzle, R & D chief at BMW, the new owners of Rover/MG confirmed in a letter to the 50,000 member British MG Club that the PR3 project is on schedule and has the full backing of BMW.

# I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream For (MGs and) Ice Cream

Being MG owners, we're all kids at heart. As Edna has told me many times, I'm 31, 39, 45 (or whatever chronological age I happen to be at that moment) going on 6, or 10 or whatever age fits my current behavior! So when **Keith Nelson** organized a drive through the countryside to get an ice cream, he hit two hot spots with one event and twenty members showed up for (wish) (gratification) fulfillment. Getting their kicks (and licks) were: **Keith Nelson & Harriet West, Rich Wagner, Ray & Fran Lewis, Al & Karen Burnham, Phil Wiltshire, Mike & Debbie Srock, Dan Kirby, Rom & Marcia Greiner, Ed & Edna Fleming, Greg Newton & Kristan DiFranco, Dean & Flora Wheeler, and Donn Rajaniemi.**

We met at the usual Meijer's parking lot in Northville and headed west, over some truly sporting roads. Keith and Harriet live amongst the hills and lakes along the Oakland - Washtenaw county boarder and Keith drives the roads we traversed nearly every day. They are some of the best sports car roads in southeast Michigan and since we didn't have clues to watch for we took full advantage of them.

When we arrived at the ice cream parlor, we were in for more gratification fulfillment as we browsed through the thousands of interesting car books, posters, metal signs, ties, models, real cars, radios shaped like '57 Chevys, toilet paper holders shaped like VW Beetles, and more.

A great, high calorie time was had by all.

## The Grill Badges Are Here!!!

**Our new Grill Badges are in the hands of your Regalia Chairmen now. They'll be available at the monthly meeting and at the Canadian Rally. The price for these great looking three colour badges is only $20.00 (U.S.).**

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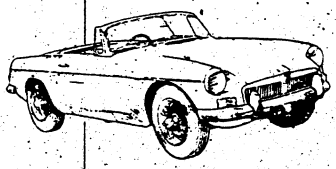

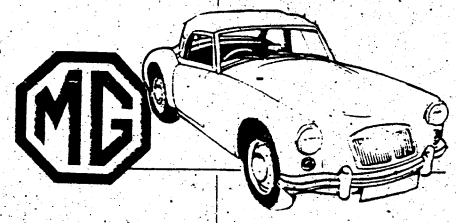

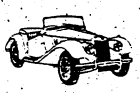

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**Top Row, left to right:** Roli Sylvestre checks his watch while Frank Lucente searches the horizon for Betty and Linda who were last seen maxing out their credit cards, even after arriving back at Douglas Walker Park from the Mall. Betty & Roli all smiles after Roli won a 5th place with their B-GT and before things "warmed up". The club members show the rest of the partiers who we are. **Middle Row:** Last year it was Otto Pope fixing his brakes in the parking lot, this year it was Dan Kirby fixing his water pump. Dan & Ed Fleming after 22 hours and 1,000 miles in Ed's Midget. **Bottom Row:** Ed with his 3 ribbons. Mike and Kathy Derderian with their 3rd place trophy.

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Join the Detroit Triumph Sportscar Club and the Metro Triumph Riders Motorcycle Club for Michigan's largest All British Car and Bike Show! View some of England's best two and four wheeled transportation at a great location - FREEDOM HILL PARK.... Vendors will have food for sale on the grounds, or bring a picnic lunch. There is even a playground for the kids.

Participants can roam the swap meet or take part in the "Field Fun Games". Bike owners can vote for their favorite motorcycle in each class, while car owners can compare different year and makes of British built automobiles in a non-competitive type show.

REGISTRATION
9:00a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OPEN TO PUBLIC
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FIELD FUN GAMES
1:30 p.m.

DOOR PRIZE PRESENTATION
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CHAIRMAN:
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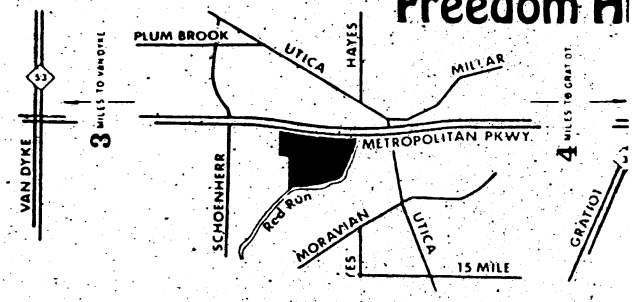


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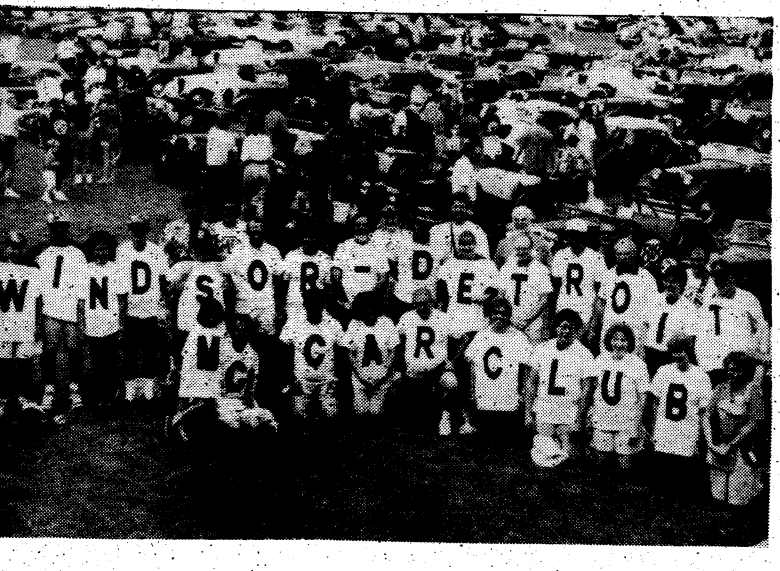



# Twist and Shout! Or Raindrops Keep Falling On Someone Else's Head!

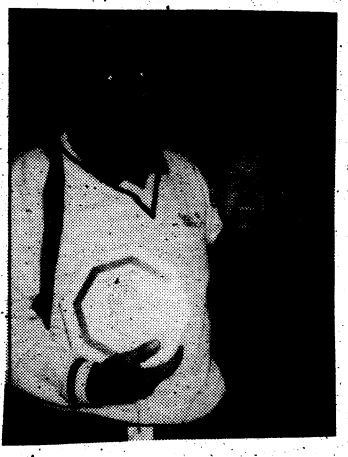
How does John Twist do it? The weather reports forecast rain everywhere from Milwaukee to Cleveland and Indianapolis to St. Paul, and MG owners driving up to Grand Rapids from Ohio and Indiana and the Detroit area all reported monsoonal thunderstorms. But at Douglas Walker Park the University Motor's Summer Party had some clouds in the morning and blue sky in the afternoon.

The threat of heavy rain may have reduced the turnout, still at least 450 MGs were on display and 75 Windsor-Detroit Club members arrived for the festivities. Our club tent was set up and stocked with hot dogs and pop and we also had a table along "club row" where a brisk business in membership applications and new grill badges took place.

A few members took advantage of the shuttle bus service to the local mall. While their husbands were perusing the vender area for MG goodies, Linda Lucente, Betty Sylvestre and Judy Pope set out to rev their credit cards to their red line. Judy made it back around 3 PM with a few packages in hand, but Linda and Betty took shopping to the limit, arriving back and the very last shuttle.

Although no club member won a first place in the various competitions, the following members walked off with a total of 21 prizes:

| Event/Class | Member | Place |
|---|---|---|
| Rally | Guy & Ann St. John | 3rd |
| Marathon Rally | Dan Kirby & Ed Fleming | 5th |
| Model Contest | Lisa Zebarah | 6th |
| | | |
| Model Contest | Dan Zebarah | 4th |
| Craft Contest | Ed Fleming | 2nd |
| MGA 1500 | Dean Wheeler | 2nd |
| | | |
| MGA Mk II | Tom Shipley | 3rd |
| MGA 1600 | Jim Hine | 2nd |
| MGB - 2B | Ann St. John | 6th |
| | | |
| MGB - 2BR | Mike Derderian | 3rd |
| MGB - 2BH | Dave Hornby | 5th |
| MGB - 2BH | Frank Lucente | 2nd |
| | | |
| MGB - 3B | Rich Wagner | 5th |
| MGB - 3B | Dave Fraidenburg | 3rd |
| MGB - 4B | Dan Zebarah | 5th |
| | | |
| MGB - LE | Otto Pope | 6th |
| MGB - LE | Suzanne Synder | 5th |
| MGB - LE | Hayden Heath | 3rd |
| | | |
| MGB-GT | Roli Sylvestre | 5th |
| MGC / C-GT | Ray Lewis | 3rd |
| Early Midget | Ed Fleming | 6th |



For those of you who were wondering what the fire trucks were doing at the Excel-Inn Saturday night, Roli Sylvestre had made a promise several years ago that if he ever won a ribbon at the Summer Party "there will be a hot time in the motel room that night"! Betty Sylvestre had a mischievous smile on her face when Roli won 5th place in the B-GT class, and related that story to me. (Hey Edna, I won 3 Ribbons, any chance that.....).

For those of you who didn't make this party, plan now to be there next year, the weather will be great. A great time was had by all, and a hot time by a few.

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THE ULTIMATE ANTI-THEFT DEVICE...
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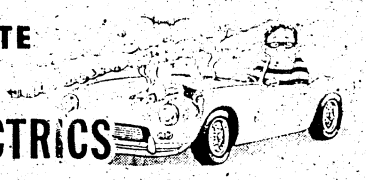


**Marathon Men...**(continued from page 2)

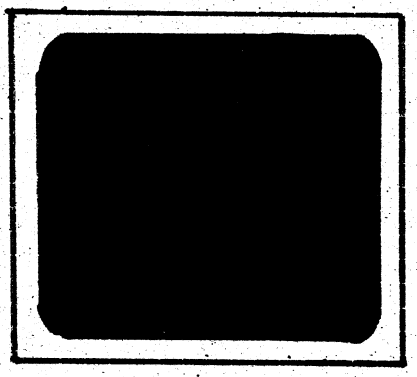
We headed west on Highway 150 to Loogootee, Indiana and checkpoint number 6. At Loogootee we headed north, things looking real good. Our average speed was up to 47.7 MPH, we'd found several short cuts and felt confident that our mileage was 1st place material.

Then it happened. We got greedy and decided to take a short cut that wasn't on the map. Rather than going north for 7 or 8 miles then east for 9 or 10, we turned down a road that ran northeast (to cut the corner and save a few more miles). Big mistake! About 20 miles later we found ourselves about 3 miles farther down the original north-south road. But what a 20 mile detour it was. once while cresting a whoop-de-do, we got airborne and landed, going a little sideways with a big screech from all four tires. Later after the road turned to gravel we came over a rise and saw a 2 X 6 board sticking up on the left. I moved to the right to miss it only to discover as we crested the rise that someone had dug a ditch across the road and the board I saw sticking up was one of the boards placed across the ditch for cars to drive across. The right wheels ran across the right hand 2 X 6, the left went through the air.

Not only did this detour add 20 extra miles to our total, it also lowered our average speed to the point that we now weren't sure we would make it back to Grand Rapids by the 3:30 deadline.

We then upped the cruise to about 4,500 RPM and hit the expressway, arriving back at the Hilton at 3:20 (with ten minutes to spare after almost 22 hours of driving.

Amazingly, I wasn't tired, despite having last slept 36 hours before. I was also impressed with the way the Midget preformed. We ran it hard and put it away wet as the cowboys say, and we didn't need any of the spare parts or tools we had stuffed the trunk with. I was also impressed with Dan's driving and navigating skills. I'm ready to do it again.....in a month or two, I need to catch up on my sleep first.



J. Lucas, photo taken using a Lucas "King of the Road" Flashbulb.

# The Prince of Darkness

All of our MGs are fitted with Lucas electrical equipment; indeed it was William Richard Morris, who gave Joseph Lucas Ltd their first large orders for motorcar electrical equipments in the early 20's. But who was Joseph Lucas, founder of what is now an international corporation? Joseph was born on April 1st. (does it surprise you?) 1834, in Birmingham, England. His formative years were influenced by the teaching and ministry of George Dawson, who was to have such a profound effect on the development of Birmingham, that an American observer thought it "the best managed city in the world."

At 14, Joseph was apprenticed to H&GR Elkington Silversmiths, who had pioneered the process of electroplating, but on completing his apprenticeship, instead of staying with Elkington, he choose to start his own business selling buckets, shovels, and the newly discovered paraffin (kerosene). The city of Birmingham had a long tradition of small metalworking businesses. In the atmosphere of an expanding industrial revolution, it was easy for him to start up his own business.

At age 20 Joseph married his wife Emily and moved into a house on Carver Street. However it had been poorly built and soon turned to slums. Like many in their day Joseph and Emily sought solace in drink until one day the realization that he had 3 children to support dawned on him and he joined the local Temperance Society, a movement he supported the rest of his life.

The discovery of petroleum and paraffin in 1859 had given an enormous boost to the lamp manufacturing trade, and it wasn't long before Lucas came upon a product he could sell; the Tom Bowling Ship's Lamp. Sale of the lamps soon turned to a desire to manufacture them and he took on 5 men and set up his first small factory.

The next major development which ensured rapid growth of the Lucas business was the invention of the bicycle. In 1879, Lawson's Bicyclette had incorporated the novel features of 2 wheels of the some diameter and a chain drive. This safety principal was perfected in 1885 in the Rover bicycle and 3 years later John Dunlap's pneumatic tire at last made cycling a popular pastime. In 1878, Joseph's first cycle lamp, the famous "King of the Road" appeared.

In September 1882, in recognition of the expanding and significant part son Harry was playing in it, the partnership of Joseph Lucas & Son was formed. At this time the beginnings of an export business began with the Pope Company in the U.S. stating they could sell Lucas as cheaply as they could make lamps themselves.

The partnership of Joseph Lucas & Son had proven so successful that in 1897 a new company, Joseph Lucas Ltd. was formed, Acetylene was just becoming accepted for use in lamps and Lucas soon began manufacturing acetylene lamps also.

In 1900 Joseph's wife died and the following year he married Mary Owen. At the company's annual meeting he looked forward to the coming of the motor car boom and the forecast that Lucas' success in supplying bicycle accessories would be repeated with motorcars.

Immediately after the meeting he left with his new wife for a vacation & business trip to the Mediterranean. After visiting Egypt they landed in Naples just before Christmas 1902, but sadly by December 27th Joseph, the old "King of the Road" himself had died of typhoid fever contracted when, refusing all local wines in accordance with his temperance principles, he had imbibed the local water instead. The legend goes that the Lucases, never ones to waste money, had Joseph's body brought to the U. K. in a Lucas Ltd. packing crate which contained business samples of "King of the Road" and "Silver King" lamps for the trip! At his funeral service on January 14th 1903 among the hymns sung were "Lead Kindly Light" and No Shadows Beyond".

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# The Colourful World of Lucas

Stolen from the Emerald Necklace MG Register Inc.,who stole it from the MG Club of Central Florida.

The colours of the electrical wires on MGs tell us a story. If you are looking at a group of wires that are going to various places on the car there will be a rainbow of colours.

Plain solid colours like red, white, brown, black, purple, green and blue tell you which circuit they belong to:

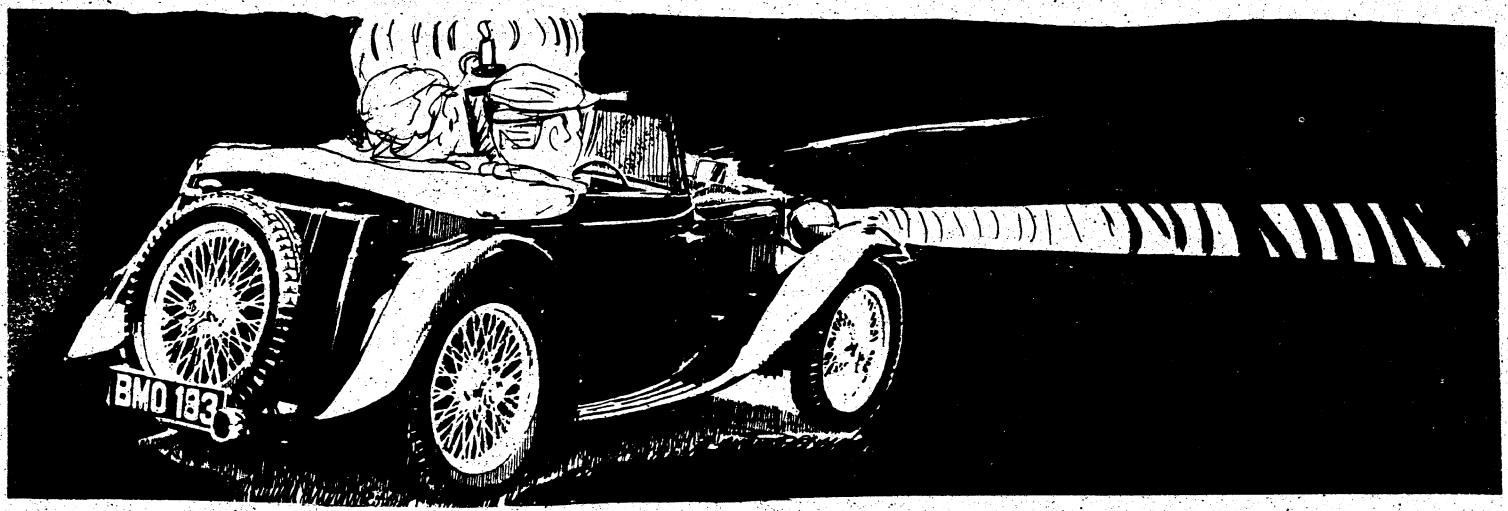
| | |
|---|---|
| Black (B) | Ground (Earth) |
| Brown (N) | Always HOT, not fused |
| Purple (P) | Always HOT, fused |
| White (W) | HOT with ignition ON, not fused |
| Green (G) | HOT with ignition ON, fused |
| Blue (U) | Head light main feed, not fused |
| Red (R) | Parking/Tail lights, not fused (one should be used) |

The above wire colours may also have a thin line of colour running through them, known as a tracer. For example, **blue** with a **white** tracer (UW) is saying that the main colour blue is part of the headlight circuit and the tracer color says "I am for the high beam circuit".

**Red/White** (RW). The red wire is Parking/tail lights, the white tracer is for Panel Lights. **Blue/Red** (UR); The blue wire is Headlights, the red tracer is for low beams. **White/Black (WB);** The white wire is Ignition, not fused, the black tracer goes from the coil to distributor. **Green/Yellow (GY);** The green wire is HOT with ignition on and fused, the yellow tracer is for the right directional indicator., **Green/Blue (GU):** The green wire is HOT with ignition on and fused, the blue tracer is for left directional indicator. **Purple/Black (PB);** The purple wire is always HOT and fused, the black tracer is for the horn button (late cars). **Green/Black (GB);** The green wire is HOT with ignition on and fused, the black tracer is for the fuel gauge from the gas tank.

With this information and a little detective work on your part, you can now identify and track down all the wires on your car.

LUCAS




# Who Turned Out The Lights? Or It Sure Is Dark Out Here!!

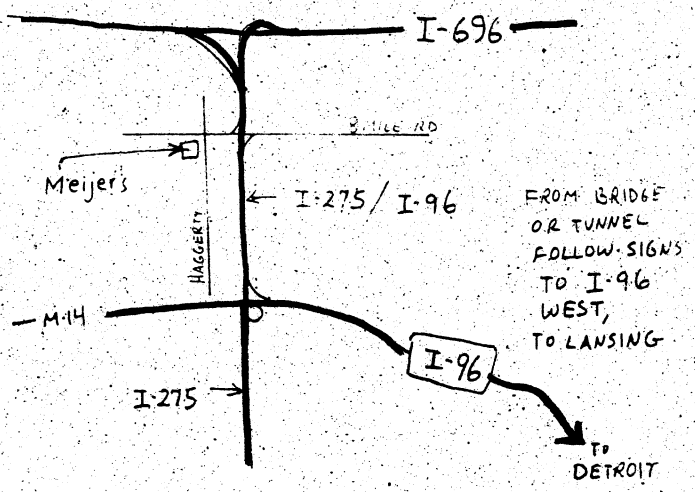
# It's Time Again For Our Lucas Night Rally.

**Experience the pleasure of a top down evening drive, the smell of burning electrical devices, the excitement of suddenly having no headlights at 50 MPH, the frustration of hunting for clues in the darkness. The relief when everything actually works as planned.**

**Time: Saturday, September 17th - 8:30PM**

**Place: The Meijer's Parking Lot at 8 Mile and Haggerty Roads, just west of I-275.**

**Bring: A working (non-Lucas?) flashlight, notepad or clipboard, pen or pencil.**



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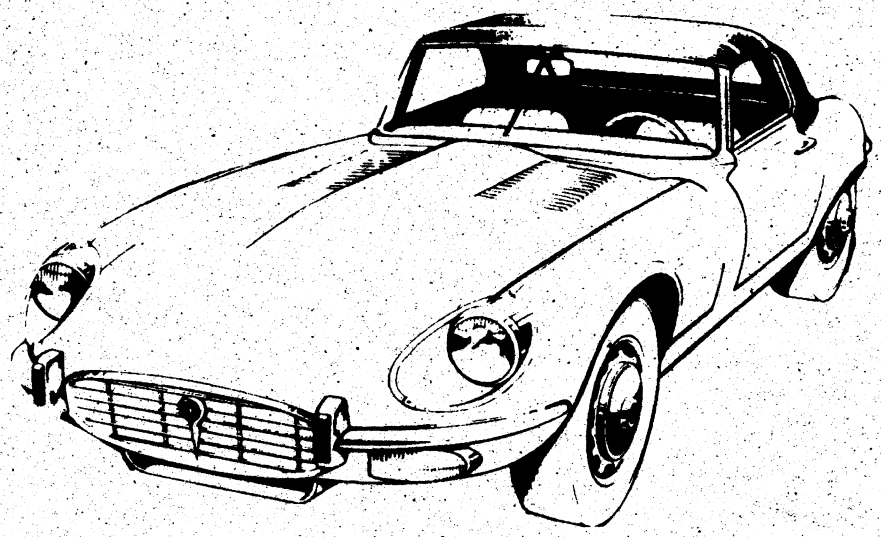

PLEASE CONTACT TOM SHIPLEY IF INTERESTED AT T & W AUTO BODY, INC. BETWEEN 8:00 TO 5:00 MONDAY TO FRIDAY

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# Unclassifieds

Unclassified ads are free to members of the club, and $5.00 for three months for non-members. Send your items for the unclassifieds to: 8905 Napier Rd. Northville, MI 48167, USA.

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**British Car Brochures and Ads.** Jay Kollin (313)455-6949

**5 Rostyle wheels (14")** Refinished with good Goodyear tires and new trim rings and hub caps. $200. Dave Reed (810) 781-2716 (7)

**'79 MGB LE,** Black, fresh engine, overdrive, hardtop, new tires, brakes etc. Call for details. Tom Bondy (519) 735-5781 (7)

**Wire Wheels,** hubs and knockoffs from '76 MGB. $100 for all. Rich Wagner (810) 624-9573 (7)

**Midget Parts;** Assorted years, many parts, Brett Shelly (519)736-2301 (8)

**'49 MG TC** BRG, Biscuit leather interior, custom made canvas hood, 1/2 and full tonneaus, rebuilt and balanced engine, mech excellent, restored 4 years ago, stored last 3 years, high speed rear end. $20,000 Canadian, $17,500 U.S. Also $2000 spares, new and rebuilt available. Reed Collacott (613) 489-3192 (8)

**'74 Midget,** chrome bumpers, good daily driver, rebuilt clutch hydraulics, $3500 U.S. Dave Robb (810) 738-8259 (8)

**'77 Midget** Good condition, red/black, new tires, 57,000. $2800 OBO Roger Williams (810) 772-5217 (9)

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**Back issues of Can-Am Connection** to complete my collection. Jan/Feb '87, Nov. '87 Dec. '87, Sept. '86, June '85 and issues prior to Oct '81. Roli Sylvestre (519) 969-2739

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# Calendar of Events

Events in **bold type are WDMGC events,** those in *Italics ar Ontario British Car Council/Mg Club of Toronto events.* If you want to know more about any event call **The Windsor-Detroit MG Club Hot Line at (810) 305-WDMG (305-9364).** For more information on the Ontario Council events call (416) 533-MGMG.

**SEPTEMBER**

**Sep 3 Day Trip to Auburn IN for the A-C-D Meet**
Sep 8-11 40th Anniversary Collier Cup MG Races-Watkins Glen NY
Sep 11 Battle of the Brits-Freedom Hill Park-Sterling Heights
**Sep 14 Monthly Meeting-Windsor**
**Sep 17 Lucas Night Rally**
Sep 18 English Day at the Races-Waterford Hills Race Track
*Sep 18 British Car Day-Burlington Ontario*
*Sep 23-25 Rally of the Small Pines-Southern Ontario*

**OCTOBER**

**Oct 1 Board of Directors Meeting.** Members are welcome-call Guy St. John for time and place (810) 349-3649
Oct 2 BSCC Car Show or Colour Tour
**Oct 12 Monthly Meeting-Dearborn**
**Oct ?? Fall Colour**
Oct 13-16 SCCA National "Runoffs"-Mid Ohio Raceway
*Oct 23 British Autojumble-Toronto ONT*

**NOVEMBER**

**Nov 9 Monthly Meeting-Windsor**
**Nov 19 Hibernation Party-U.S. Side**

**DECEMBER**

**Dec 14 Monthly Meeting-Dearborn**

**The Windsor-Detroit MG Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 PM. Even months at the La Trattoria Restaurant at 13736 Michigan Ave, west of Schaefer in Dearborn. Odd months at the Embers Restaurant at the corner of Howard and Highway 3 in Windsor.**

Ever wonder what an Armstrong-Siddley was? Here's a picture →

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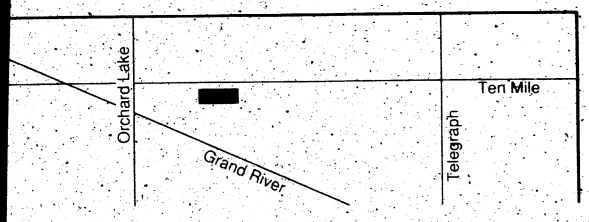
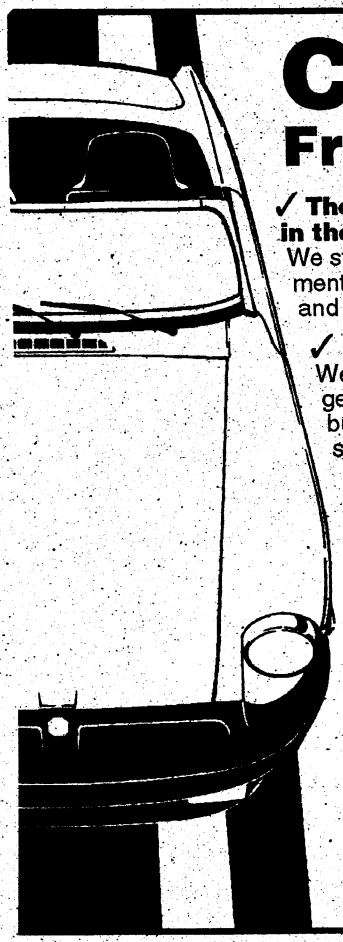


10 Mile, East of Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills (313) 474-7744



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