The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 18, No. 3- Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club - March, 1998

Brewing Up An Adventure! Club Tours Several Local Breweries!

By Tom Newton

In spite of the large number of members who had expressed interest in the tour, we started with just five hardy souls. The 15 passenger van that was rented provided a lot of comfortable seating. Each person had their own row where they could stretch out and even grab a quick nap between pubs. Matt Houser, his sister Cheryl, and friend Melany, along with my wife Sandy and I set off for Ann Arbor and our first stop. I played the part of the designated driver for the day.

We met Judy and Otto Pope for lunch at Grizzly Peaks on North Washington. Matt voted the Special Cask Conditioned Ale the best of the seven beers in their sampler and eventually the best beer of the tour. Some of the items ordered from the menu were the wood fired pizza, the luncheon special of trout and a Cajun pasta dish. The food and beers were excellent.

The core group then headed for Pontiac and the King Brewing Company. This was strictly a brewery with a small tap room. Our group was treated to free samples of their four current brews when they found that we were from an MG club. They had a Mini Cooper parked in the front window of the store. It was pointed out that one of the owners had won honors at Meadowbrook this last year for one of his English cars. The people were really friendly and gave us a lot of personal attention taking the time to explain their beers and provided some tips on other serious sounding brewery tours. All free beer is excellent and outstanding.

We then motored to Bo's Brewery and Bistro on South Huron near downtown Pontiac. Although Bo's specialized in a guaranteed 15 minute lunch, this turned out to be the appetizers and beer stop before dinner. Good atmosphere and the beer had a nice body and the head wasn't bad either.

The group arrived at the Big Buck Brewery in Auburn Hills on schedule at 6:00 PM. Since most of the residents of Oxford, Lake Orion, Pontiac and Auburn Hills also arrived at the same time, our smooth running tour literally hit the wall. We were given a pocket buzzer and told that there was a 1 1/2 to 2 hour wait. Plan B was discussed but, we really did hit the wall and leaned against it for what seemed like an eternity. Dave Doolin, wife Nancy along with Jeff Zorn and wife Jan timed it perfectly and arrived about ten minutes before the buzzer went off.

The Big Buck Brewery holds 685 people and we suspect that there may have been a few more than that on this particular Saturday night. You have to wonder how they manage to run business on this large a scale. The interior is impressive and it was obvious that this was "the place to be" and "be seen at".

It didn't take us too long to find out how well they ran the business. Things went nicely until they started to bring the food. The steaks for Matt and Nancy were sent back, not once, not twice, but three times. And, Melany got an extra salad with her salad, strange? This whole Big Buck experience took us three and a half hours.

Oh, the beer. That's what this was all about, the micro brewery tour. Maybe the kitchen chaos was created as a diversionary tactic to draw our attention away form their beer. I really can't remember any comment about the Big Buck beers, and I don't have any first hand experience myself. I do know that everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves and that makes it all worthwhile.

Upcoming Events

March 11 Monthly Meeting-Windsor
April 8 Monthly Meeting-Dearborn
April 18 Kimber Birthday Bash-Lansing

The Can-Am Connection is published 12 times a year by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, Inc.,

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Full Page..$30/issue, $300/year

Fine Print
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PLEASE NOTE THE DATE ON THE MAILING LABEL ON THIS NEWSLETTER. THAT IS THE DATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES. IF IT IS GETTING CLOSE, BE SURE TO RENEW AT LEAST A MONTH BEFORE TO ENSURE THAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP DOES NOT LAPSE!

SEND YOUR CHECK FOR $25 (U. S.) OR $30 (CANADIAN) (Made out to "Windsor-Detroit MG Club") TO: MIKE DERDERIAN, 2698 BALSAM WAY, STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48314

Frequent Flier Miles Contest Comes to Windsor-Detroit MG Club. Register Now!

By Jeff Zorn

Rallies, Club Meetings, GT's, GOF's, Summer Parties, runs to the store, driving to work, vacations. They're all great times to drive your MG. And starting this year you can win valuable prizes for doing just that!

We are starting a contest to see who drives their MG the most, between April 1st and November 30th. We'll present some nice prizes at the Hibernation Party. The prizes are yet to be determined, but they will be better than the ubiquitous Quart of Castrol. Heck, you know you can't go very far on a quart of oil in an MG!

We are hoping to get at least 20 cars registered.

Registering is real easy. All you have to do is call or e-mail Jeff Zorn at (248) 489-1855 or >>fcieff@aol.com<< evenings. Jeff will get your name, phone and model MG and mileage on April 1st. Note: you are registering your car, not the driver. You can register more than one car, but the mileages will not be combined.

Jeff would also like to get a mileage report from you on August 1st so we can report the standings for those of you planning a last minute trip to the left coast to catch up.

Enjoy those MG Miles and Safety Fast!

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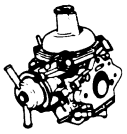

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Presidentially Speaking

Dave Doolin, President

We had a great turn out for our February Monthly meeting at Rio Bravo in Dearborn. We had close to 30 members show up. I think the fair February weather has us all thinking about MGing.

Before I forget it, if you haven't received your MG name tags, please give Ed Fleming a call. Ed has a box of them locked in the trunk of his Midget that is in storage, but with this nice weather it will be out of storage sooner rather than later.

Thanks to Tom Newton for organizing the February micro Brewery Tour. We'll be looking forward to hearing about the tour and the spots visited.

Our Cecil Kimber birthday bash will be held Saturday April 18th at the Delhi Cafe in Lansing (same location as two years ago). We'll meet at the Meijer's parking lot at 8 mile and Haggerty at 9:30 AM to caravan out. I hope we'll be able to get some MGs to show up for some early spring cruising. The Delhi Cafe is located off of I-96 at the Cedar St. exit. At the exit, turn left onto Pennsylvania Ave., this will merge with Cedar. Take Cedar approximately one mile south to Willoughby Road.. Turn left onto Willoughby and the Delhi Cafe is a few doors up on the right hand side. The party will get underway around 11 AM. Phone (517) 694-8655. Hope you will be driving out with us, if not we'll see you there.

Tom Newton has been admiring the big beautiful Guinness Stout truck that has been parked outside the Nisbet Inn at each of our Windsor monthly meetings recently. For our March 11th meeting, Tom has suggested that this would be an excellent backdrop for a club photo that we will donate to the Nisbet Inn in hopes that it will be prominently displayed on one of the Nisbet walls to give the Inn a more down home feel to our Canadian meeting spot. I hope someone remembers to bring a camera and that the driver doesn't change his delivery route.

We're looking for volunteers to organize the January 1999 Hibernation Party. Hopefully we'll have volunteers from both sides of the river. We're thinking about going back to the Dearborn Hills C. C. as we had quite the great time there for our 1997 party, but we are open to suggestions if anyone else would like to recommend an alternate location. Please call any club officer if you would like to help organize this event. We need to get our reservation on the books somewhere soon.

Don't miss our April monthly meeting in Dearborn as we'll be saying goodbye to our MG friends from Italy, Nico and Paola. Sounds like right now they will be taking an assignment in Germany. When they arrive in Germany with their freshly restored MGA there may be a BMW sales slump as the Germans start hunting for feasible restoration projects.

We're also looking for four tech advisers for each of the most recent series MG's. A Tech Advisor for the Ts, As, Bs, and Midgets. The purpose of the adviser will be to direct those with tech problems to a repair source, part source, or other club member who may be able to give some needed advise. Contact Dale Brown if you are interested at (519) 258-5987.

We're also looking for a person who might be interested in constructing a Windsor-Detroit MG Club Web page. Please call me at (248) 347-3466.

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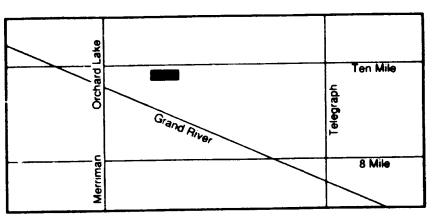

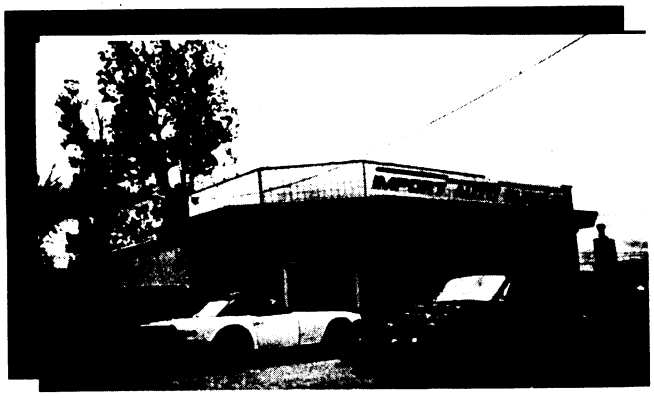

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ANNUAL STRATFORD MG WEEKEND
JUNE 6TH AND 7TH 1998

Man of La Mancha

".....In this stirring musical treatment of Cervante's classic novel* Don Quixote, *prisoners of the Spanish Inquisition act out the fable of the self-styled knight errant who, in his quest to defend truth and honour against imagined enemies, embodies the human spirit's unconquerable need for "impossible" dreams..."

We will convoy to Stratford on Saturday morning, spend time in the town and convoy back to our overnight stopover at nearby St. Mary's for an early dinner at the Westover Inn. We have booked the entire hotel for our stay.

Following dinner, we will convoy back into Stratford for the 8.00 p.m. evening performance of "Man of La Mancha" After the show, we intend to head back to our hotel for a late dessert to complete the evening.

On Sunday morning, after a hearty breakfast, we will tour the local area and then head out towards the Ontario coast for a leisurely drive back home.

We have already booked the hotel accommodation and dining package and bought the theatre tickets. Budget costs for the theatre & overnight package is approximately $300 Canadian
- don't forget the .60 cent US exchange rate!!

Please mark this important date on your calendar and then call me, Philip Wiltshire, on (248) 932 0072 to confirm your interest.

Just Another Mechanic Monday (and Tuesday) At University Motors

by Dale Brown

On Monday and Tuesday, February 16th and 17th, I attended one of John Twist's Tech Sessions at University Motors in Grand Rapids. Each winter, John puts on several seminars, mostly on weekends, dealing with anything from general restoration techniques to care and maintenance, to engine rebuilds. On Mondays and Tuesdays he has a hands on course where you get to work on your car your very own self.

This year he did a carburetor rebuild course and a gearbox course. I choose the gearbox class.

The course was very rewarding and fun. Ten enthusiasts joined John and three of his assistants to tear down, clean, inspect and replace various parts for their very own gearboxes. I brought one from my 1972 MGB. A straight forward, all synchro unit without overdrive.

I also had a spare 1970 trans at home, but that one can wait. I just brought the required parts to rebuild the '72.

The shop was well organized with each participant all set up in advance by John with their own work tables and all the parts required for their transmissions. Very well done. There were some overdrive boxes, some from TDs, and even one from a Morris Minor.

Those with the overdrives needed the full two days. I managed to finish by 11 AM on Tuesday and so was able to leave early with a nice and clean, like new gearbox to put back in my '72 B that I'm currently restoring. It's already received new floors, and cross member and the white paint will become red (but that's another story)..

Meanwhile, I'll be driving my just restored 1969 BRG MGB while I finish the '72

On the Monday night everyone met at a nice restaurant with John and had a nice evening. The course was reasonably priced and very well organized. Keep your eyes open for the courses offered next year and take something in if you can.

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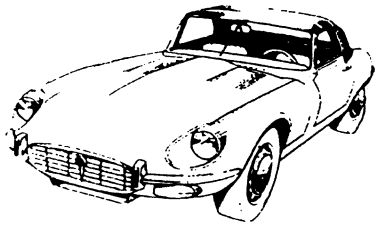

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Sweater with embroidered club logo....	$40	$52
Golf Shirt " " " ".....	$30	$39
Lap Robe " " " ".....	$45	$58
T-Shirts.....	$10	$12
Baseball Caps.....	$ 5	$ 6
Sweatshirt.....	$15	$18
MG Christmas Tree Ornaments.....	$ 5	$ 6
Grill Badges (new design).....	$20	$28

To Purchase Any Of These Items Contact Your Regalia Chairman

Video Library

The following videos are available to club members. Contact our Video Librarian, Chuck Wiley at (313) 586-2500

***La Carrera Panamerica.** (1987) Open road race across Mexico with music by Pink Floyd and **Silverstate Classic** - the fastest open road race in the world across Nevada.

***Winning** with Paul Newman. Fictional story of Indycar racing. The movie that got Newman interested in racing.

***The Italian Job** Michael Cain stars with several Minis in a big bank robbery.

***Drive to Win** with Mario Andretti

***Battle of the Bs.** Club racing MGBs in England.

***SU Carb Rebuild**

***'66 and '69 Le Mans Races**

***Formula One 1979, 1980, 1982**

***Gran Turismo Jaguar.**

***The MGB Film Library**

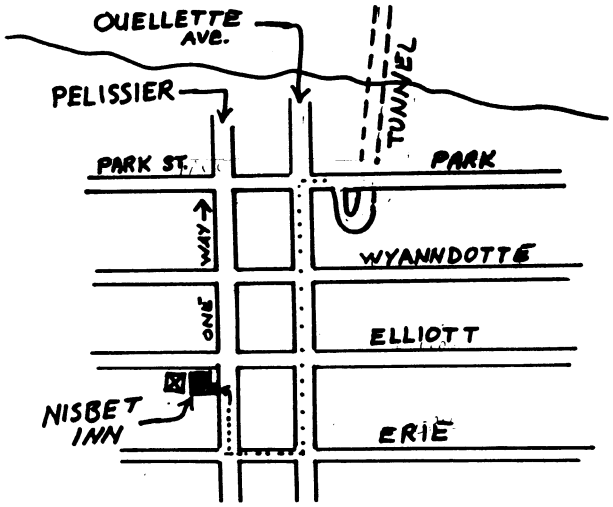
***The MGB Video.** "Short but good"

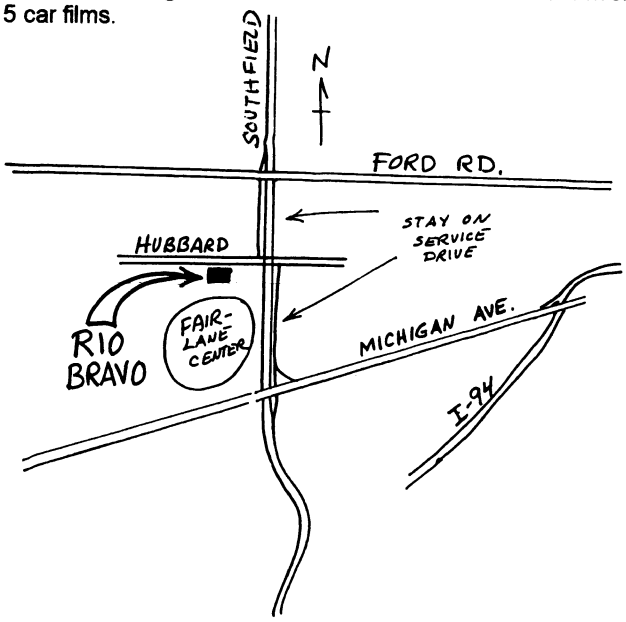
***MGB Experience.**

***The Roadster Factory Summer Party 1993**

***Behind the Wheel with Jackie Stewart.** Stewart shows you how to drive with finesse.

***Rendezvous.** A ride through the streets of Paris at 100 MPH plus. Short but great! A cult classic and one of Car & Driver's top 5 car films.





The Windsor-Detroit MG Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Even numbered months at Rio Bravo Restaurant on Hubbard Drive just west of the Southfield Expressway, and odd numbered months at the Nisbet Inn, 131 Elliott, West, just west of Ouellette, south of the tunnel. See maps.

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'77 MGB Roadster, 53K miles, new tires and top, Rostyle wheels, luggage rack, $5500 firm. Chuck Wiley (313) 586-2500 (3)

'72 MGB Roadster. Ground up restoration, red with black interior, EVERYTHING had been removed, repaired or replaced and repainted. Bare metal respray, mild engine modification to enhance performance. Can supply detailed list of work performed. If you want to DRIVE a new chrome bumper B without having to spend weekends wrenching on it-this is it. $8700. Mike Derderian (810) 731-4434 or email at derderia@tir.com (3)

Inherited Midget Parts: Doors, hood, bumpers, trunk, dash, etc. Too much to list. $475 takes it all, or call for specifics. Don (810) 924-6677. (3)

MGB Overdrive transmission $500.00 Chuck Wiley (313) 586-2500 (3))

Parts: Side glass for MGB, brand new boot for MGB, 2 front axles with splines for wire wheels, one rear axle with splines for wire wheels, 8 wire wheels, drums, carb for '76 MGB, tail lights, lots of misc. parts. Parting out '74 MGB-GT. Please call for prices. Brian, (313) 782-0126 (3)

Want to Trade a '55 Thunderbird, black with black and white interior, good driving condition for a '53 MG TD in excellent condition. Don (248) 474-8059 (1)

MGA wire wheels and tires. Tires in good cond. Make offer. Mike Derderian (810) 731-4434 (11)

Dash for '75-'80 MGB, excellant cond. $125. Chuck Wiley (313) 586-2500 (3)

WANTED

Chrome Bumper MGB Roadster. I need another MG like I need a hole in the head, but these @#$%* cars are addicting! Must be accident free with solid original sills. Not running or project cars OK. Call Mike Derderian at (810) 731-4434 or email at derderia@tir.com

Used Car Hauler, 16 foot, double axle, with trailer brakes, call Jack Fuller (248) 426-0626 (11)

14 Inch steering wheel for '70 MGB Dennis Ferguson (313) 459-1309 (7)

Back Issues of the 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

Emission Control Equipment, gulp valves, air pumps, Strombergs etc. Dan Zebarah (313) 382-6715

Calendar of Events

Note: Items listed in **Bold Type are Windsor-Detroit MG Club Events.** Those listed in *Italic Type are British Sports Car Council Events.*

For up to date information on club events call Chuck Wiley at (313) 586-2500, Ed Fleming at (248) 349-3799 or Roli Sylvestre at (519) 969-2739.

March 1998

Mar 11 Monlthly Meeting-Windsor

Mar 21-22 Missouri Endurance ERally (314) 725-2892

April 1998

Apr 8 Monthly Meeting Dearborn

Apr 18 Kimber Birthday Bash Saturday-new date

Apr 19 Ancaster, ON Flea Market & British Car Show

May 1998

May 3 British WSwap Meet, Cleveland, OH

May 13 Monthly Meeting-Windsor

May ?? Funkana

May ?? Tea at the Vicarage,

May 20 MGs meet Miatas

June 1998

Jun 6 & 7 Stratford MG Weekend

Jun 10 Monthly Meeting-Dearborn

Jun 21 Summer Ralleye-Windsor

July 1998

Jul 8 Monthly Meeting-Windsor

Jul 12 Mad Dogs & Englishmen (616) 344-5555

Jul 18 London to Brighton Run London IN (317) 887-3867

August 1998

Aug 1-2 Meadowbrook Concourse d'Elegance

Aug 12 Monthly Meeting-Dearborn

Aug 13-15 University Motors Summer Party-Grand Rapides

September 1998

Sep 9 Monthly Meeting-Windsor

Sep 11--13 Club Trip to 50th Watkin's Glen Gramd Prix

Sep 13 Battle of the Brits (810) 979-4875

Sep 25-27 Indy British Days (317) 887-3867

October 1998

Oct 14 Monthly Meeting-Dearborn

Novemeber 1998

Nov 11 Monthly Meeting-Windsor

December 1998

Dec 9 Monthly Meeting-Dearborn (Gift Exchange Night)

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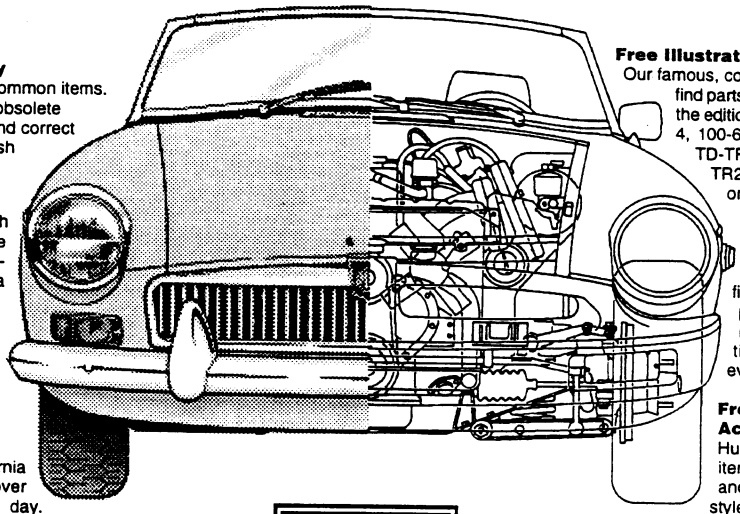

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