The Can Am CONNECTION

WINDSOR-DETROIT

Vol. 19, No. 6- Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club - September, 1999

Photo: Windsor-Detroit Club members spell out our club name amongst a sea of MGs at Douglas Walker Park.

The Summer Party Is Dead, Long Live The Summer Party!

Well, it's finally over, John Twist has put on his last Summer Party after 23 summers of fantastic cars, games, ralleyes, vendors, friends, families, and all around great car stuff. And what a great Party it was!

Next year, the Chicagoland MG Club is moving their Abingdon Weekend to the traditional August Summer Party date, so keep that weekend open on your calendar. The festivities will continue in a new location. Dates for next year are August 17 to August 20, 2000.

Abingdon, IL, is about 175 miles west-southwest of Chicago, near Peoria. About 300 miles farther down the road than Grand Rapids. Everyone I know from the Chicagoland club knows how to have fun with their MGs. They're an enthusiastic bunch of MG people. (Remeber our Hibernation Party 3 years ago?) The "Summer Party" will be in good hands.

As usual, John had perfect weather for his last Summer Party. Just a few puffs of clouds in a blue sky and perfect temperatures for all 4 days of the event.

There were upwards of 600 MGs in attendance this year, with 58 or so MGCs, the featured model. This was the largest gathering of MGCs ever assembled in one location. Typical John Twist.

The club had our new canopy assembled so members could get out of the sun, and chow down on the club provided sandwiches and pop. We also picked up a few new members, who stopped by the club tent.

Many Windsor-Detroit members drove back home from the Summer Party with awards,. Here's a list of those winners: Note that Sue and Dave Synder and Dan Kirby were two time winners..

Class:	Place:	Winner:
Non MG	4th	Snyders - Triumph GT-6
MGA1600	4th	Dave Torby
MGA 1600	3rd	Jeff Zorn
MGB	5th	Guy & Ann St. john
MGB (4B)	2nd	Dan & Marla Zebarah
MGB-LE	1st	Sue & Dave Snyder
MGB-LE	5th	Otto Pope
MGB-GT	3rd	Dave & Lynne Hornby
MGB-GT	6th	John & Nancy Zajac
Premiere	2nd	Terry Frisch - MGA
Midget	6th	Jay Kollin
MGC-GT	4th	Ray & Fran Lewis
Ralleye	4th	Dan & Beth Kirby
Marathon	1st	Ed Fleming & Dan Kirby

The Can-Am Connection is published 10 times a year by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, Inc.
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Full Page..$30/issue, $250/year
Fine Print
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Safety Fast!

Ed Fleming, Editor

I once got a ticket for "running a stop sign". I was innocent, so I took the ticket to court. I explained to the judge that I had in fact stopped "legally " at the stop sign, even though I might not have stopped "safely". The judge agreed with me that driving legally and driving safely are not necessarily the same thing.

I had pulled up the stop sign behind a Ford driver, who stopped where most people stop, a little beyond the stop sign, a little into the intersection where they could get a good view of the cross traffic. A place where I would also normally stop because that is the safest place to stop and see the cross traffic. When he stopped, I stopped behind him in the legal spot behind the line by the stop sign. When that driver took off, I simply moved forward, check the cross traffic without stopping again and made my turn. The policeman gave me a ticket for not stopping again before I made the turn. The judge agreed that I didn't have to stop twice for the stop sign.

On the 1,000 mile Marathon ralleye at the Summer Party, Dan Kirby and I sometimes (ok make that often) ignore no left turn signs and other legal rules etc, to shorten up the distance. We don't drive dangerously, just illegally. It occurred to me that a lot of traffic rules are not made for safe driving, but are often made just as a money maker for the local court system.

Remember back in the 70s and 80s when the National Maximum Speed Limit was set at 55 MPH? It was highly dangerous to drive that slow on I-696, even in the slow lane. Most people went 70 or 80 MPH. Driving 55 was very legal but also very dangerous.

So remember the MG motto "Safety Fast" except when there are police present, then our motto has to be "Unsafely Legal".

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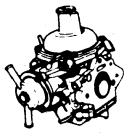

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MGing

By Dave Doolin, President

I arrived at our August meeting at the Nisbet late. Marshall Coulter, our faithful VP ran the meeting for me. There were so many MGs in the parking lot that we ran the overflow out into the lot across the street. It was one beautiful day for driving MGs.

I think the members couldn't wait to get back out to the lot after our meeting to check out other members' cars. We always have a nice selection of recently finished projects and cars that are getting ready for the next trip to the body shop or home workshop for some additional work.

Before and after pictures are always amazing to me. Many of these projects seem impossible to a person who has never undertaken a frame up restoration, like me. Some before pictures show the car in such poor shape you wonder why the owner ever even undertook such a rescue. I think rescue is the best word to use for some of these cars as they've been saved from the crusher.

These rescues always take me back a bit because I know once the car is complete, it will be able to be preserved forever. The fact of the matter is that any part that breaks can be replaced. Most are available from catalogs.

I attended the car show portion of the regional meet of NAMGA in Grand Bend, ON with Matt Bade, going up Thursday morning and returning that night. Our own Mike and Kathy Derderian took first place in the MGA 1600 category and I think even Best of Show! Many WDMGC members attended and all had a great time. The Hoser As proved they know how to throw a party.

August 16th was Monday Cruise Night. in Farmington where our club was the featured club. We had a good turnout of MGs and Jeff Zorn took one of the prizes with his beautiful MGA 1600.

Next it was off to the last John Twist Summer Party. John sure went out in a big way as he had over 550 MGs show up and I understand over 800 people attended the Saturday night banquet. The club put on a luncheon Saturday and we had a full contingent of Windsor-Detroit members. **Marcia Greiner** got the new canopy and **Marla Zebarah** and son **David** did all the chopping for the lunch goodies. Thank you to **Marcia, Marla, David and also Fran & Ray Lewis** for your help with this function.

I didn't get around to seeing all the cars, there were just too many. The only people I didn't have a chance to talk to were Jeff and Jan Zorn who were selling the British sports car parts at their vendor booth. Jeff and Jan are really into their new business, "Vintage Motors/Little British Car Co.". I have been purchasing my parts through Jeff and have been very happy with their prices and service.

Please don't forget we will be at Paynes on Woodward for the September meeting. Map in this issue.

We plan on driving right through January 1st so don't sign any leases for garage space yet.

Also, we need many new officers inn 2000, so please call me. Our club needs you!

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VISA

Marcia's Marvelous Mid-week Mystery Tour. The Mystery Will Be Revealed Wednesday Sept. 15th.

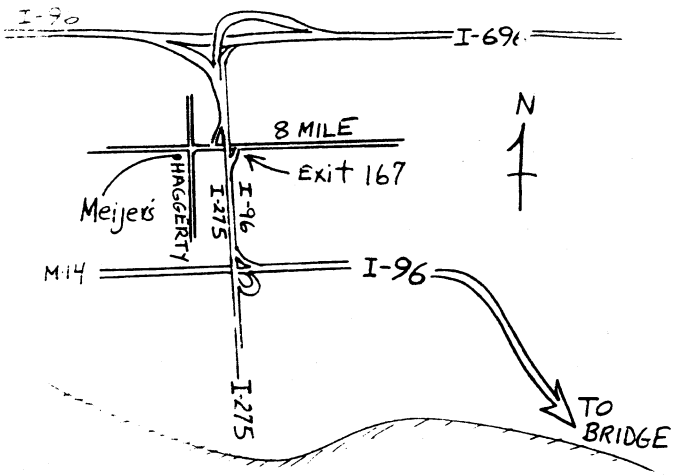
We have another Wednesday Night Fun Run Planned. This one will be a run through the countryside to a restaurant the club has never been to, down some roads we have, some very nice twisty roads.

We'll supply maps to show you the way. You can caravan will other members, or cruise on your own at your own speed.

What: Wed. Nite Fun Run

Where: Meet at the usual Meijer Parking Lot at 8 mile and Haggerty rd. Exit # 167 off I-275 (Note: With the construction on I-275 exit 167 might not be open. If so, exit at 7 Mile or 6 Mile and go west to Haggerty then north to 8 Mile and the Meijer's).

When: Wednesday night, Sept. 15th. meet in the Meijer's parking lot at 6:30PM



Watkin's Glen Vintage Racing Weekend Trip Set For Sept. 9th. - 12th

Last year several members journeyed to Watkin's Glen New York for the 50th Anniversary of racing at Watkin's Glen and had such a great time we're doing it all over again this year.

This is a wonderful long weekend filled with great driving, camping out, fantastic vintage racing where you can actually get real close to the action, even touch the racing cars with your bare hands.

Get up early and meet the rest of the adventurers at &:00 AM at the Tilbury rest area on the 401, about 40 Kilometers or 25 miles east of Windsor.

For more information call Otto Pope at (248) 437-7386 or Dave Hornby at (519) 735-3567.

Windsor-Detroit Word Search!

At the Summer Party, club members donned letter shirts to spell out our club name (see picture on front page). We also discovered that there were other words we could spell with our club letters (see picture above. Find the following words in this month's Word Search Game:

LUCAS MOSCOW DOORMAT DETROIT MG CAR CLUB CARBON MIDGET ABINGDON BRITAIN MORRIS CASTROL RUST MOTOWN COIL STARTER NUT ABBREVIATION FOR BRITISH RACING GREEN

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G L U A C O I L U A B
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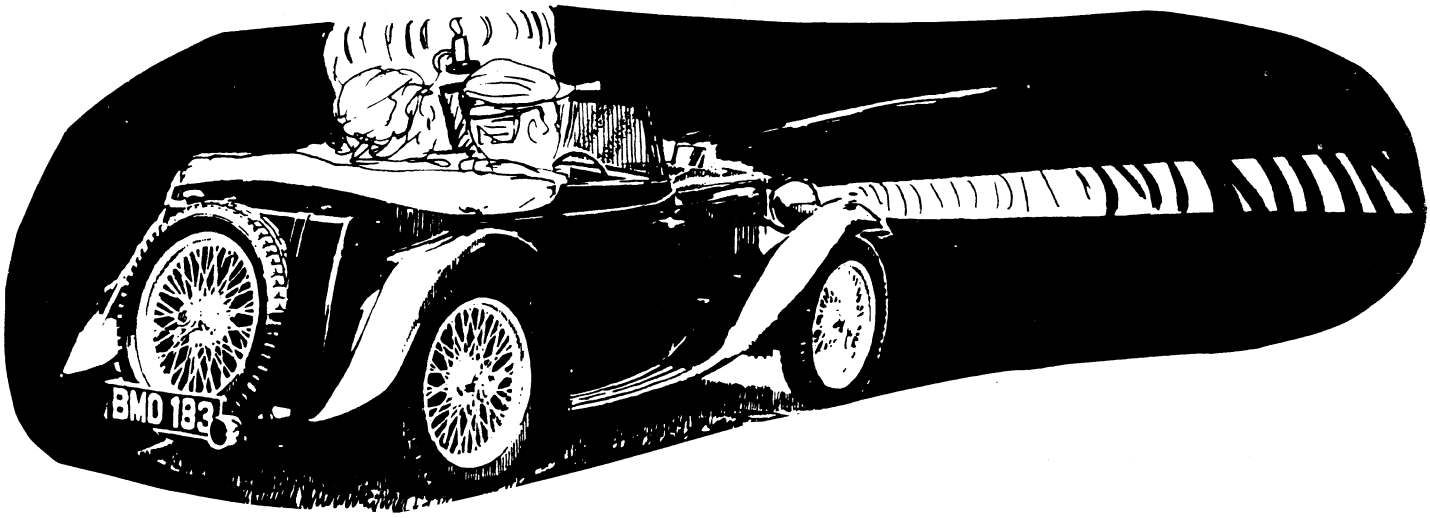
Who Turned Out The Lights?
Or, It Must Be Time for Our Lucas Night Ralleye!



Hey, is my eyesight going? Why is everything suddenly looking yellow?

The nights are getting longer and the days shorter. About the time of our Lucas rally, night and day will be about equal. So, make sure your battery is fully charged, Double check your generator or alternator, and head out to our annual Lucas Night Ralleye.

Get the answers to those questions and experience the pleasures of a top down evening drive, the aroma of burning electrical devices and the excitement of suddenly having no headlights at 50 MPH. Or just a normal night-time drive in your MG.

Actually most years everything works out fine on our Lucas Night Ralleyes. About as often as Lucas electrics work that is.

This year's Lucas Night Ralleye will take place on the southern side of the border. We'll meet at the normal spot for things Canadian, The Nisbet Inn. We'll end up at a restaurant in the Eastern Time Zone as we say.

Make sure your headlights work, and plan on a relaxing evening drive in your MG.

What: Annual Lucas Night Ralleye

Where: Starts at the Nisbet Inn, see map in back of newsletter

When: Saturday night, September 18th Be there at 7:30 PM. That's at night.

What to bring: Clip board, something to write with, a working (as opposed to Lucas) flashlight, sense of adventure.

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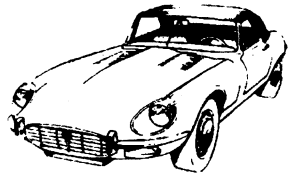

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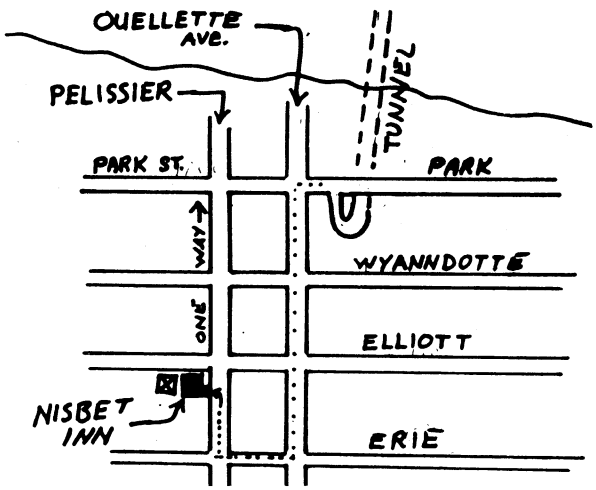
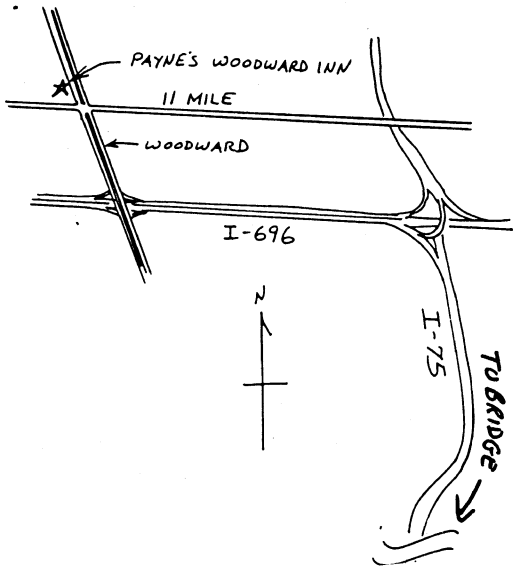
The Windsor-Detroit MG Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Even numbered months we meet at the Nisbet Inn, 131 Elliott, West, just west of Quellette, south of the tunnel. Odd numbered months we meet at Payne's Woodward Inn at 1881 Woodward Ave, a mile north of the I-696 expressway. See maps.





W-DMGC Regalia

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Glass Mugs, coffee cups, glasses....	**$ 8**	**$10**
Crystal Christmas Tree Ornaments.....	**$10**	**$13**
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Watch (Men's or Ladies styles).....	$20	$24
Embroidered Golf Shirts.....	$25	$30
Key Rings.....	$ 5	$ 6
Wall Clocks.....	$22	$26
Club Logo Hat Pins	$ 3	$3.50
Other Hat Pins.....	$ 3	$3.50
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

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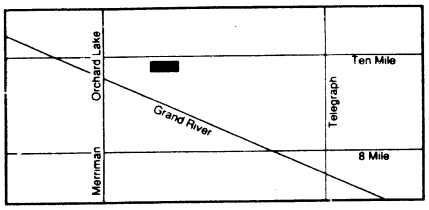

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Calendar of Events

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 (734) 586-2500, Ed Fleming at (248) 349-3799 or Roli Sylvestre at (519) 969-2739.

September 1999

Sep 8 Monthly Meeting-Payne's Woodward Inn
Sep 9-12 Watkins Glen Vintage Racing/Camping Trip
Sep 12 Battle of the Brits-Freedom Hill Park
Sep 15 Mystery Fun Run, Meijer's
Sep 18 Lucas Night Ralleye
Sep 24-26 Indy British Motor Days, Indianapoolis, IN (317) 227-7555

October 1999

Oct 13 Monthly Meeting-Nisbt Inn
Oct 17 Colour Tour / Lighthouse Tour

November 1999

Nov 10 Monthly Meeting-Payne's Woodward Inn

December 1999

Dec 8 Monthly Meeting-Nisbt Inn-Gift Exchange Night

January 2000

Jan 1 Stupid Ride to Hell and back
Jan 12 Monthly Meeting-Payne's Woodward Inn

February 2000

Feb 3 Hibernation Party-Essex Golf Club-Windsor

Unclassified Ads

Unclassified ads run for three issues or for however long I feel like running them. They are free for members and $5.00 for non-members. Call Ed Fleming at (248) 349-3799 to place your ad.

FOR SALE

Ceramic Models, business card holders, mugs etc. Hand made and personalized. We've actually won prizes for these things and our stuff is on display at the Morgan factory, Kimber House in Abingdon, the Detroit Institute of Arts, and the Pewabic Pottery. Call Marcia Greiner (248) 348-1473

British Car Brochures & Ads. Jay Kollin (734) 455-6949

'61 MGA roadster. Very good cond., new interior and top. Extras include hardtop and fog lamps (one original & one Moss). Appraised at $14,500, Asking $12,000. John Dick (248) 280-6476 days, (248) 682-8059 eves. (9)

'64 MGB Rdster. New interior, extra trans & other spare parts, $8,000 O.B.O. Shirley Asley (248) 559-8339. (8)

'78 MGB, Much recent work by John Twist at UML. Imron paint job, Dayton chrome wire wheels, new exhaust, Kenwood stereo, luggage rack, Weber carb., new starter, rebuilt alternator, new battery, new Michelins, stored winters. $8500. Fred Segal, (810) 731-3600 days, (313) 882-6618 eves. (8)

GARAGE SALE: Five MGB engines '72-'73, Five '72-'73 Transmissions (no overdrive) $100.00 each. Gordon Wallace (519) 253-6129 (6)

WANTED TO TRADE; Have '55 Thunderbird, black with white interior, good condition for '53 MG-TD in excellent' cond. Don (248) 474-8059 (6)

'71 MGB engine, complete, with head ready for rebuild, also have transmission and pair of HS4 carbs. Make reasonable offer on all or part. Jeff Zorn, eves (248) 489-1855 or Email MGAJeff@aol.com. (5)

MGB Parts: '62-'67 generator, generator fan & pulley '62-'67 starter, 3 blade fan & pulley, distributor #40897D 15V583, headlight rim with inner & seating rim, '67-8 drive shaft, '67-8 radiator surround diaphram, '67 radiator, pair GT left & right rear side window assy.,, '68 4 syncro. transmission, '67-8 chrome grille assy., complete tail lamp assy. to '69. Plus various other bits. No reasonable offer refused for lot. Brian Collacott (519) 969-7187 (6)

WANTED

Dash Plaque from this year's Mad Dogs & Englishmen. Call Dave Torby (248) 788-1391 (9)

Chrome bumper MGB project car - rust free with original sills and floors, no major accidents. Not running okay. Call Mike Derderian at (810) 731-4434 or e-mail at derderia@tir.com

'73 MGB Mallard green with Ochre interior. John Dailey, 4988--B Oakbrook Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46254 (317) 297-0811. E-mail at JOHNDALY@INDY.NET (8)

Rebuildable TD wanted. Call John Bluth (248) 646-6574 (6)

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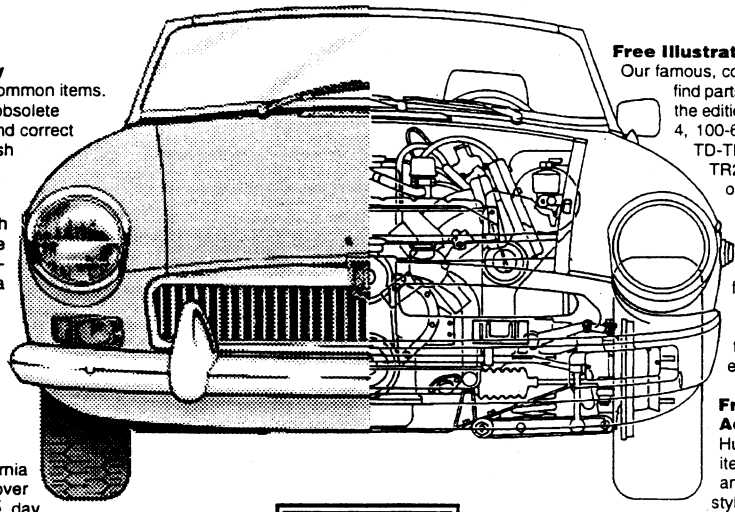

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