The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 22, No. 4 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club - June, 2002

HATS OFF TO ELVIN DAVIS

MORE NEW REGALIA THIS MONTH

Elvin Davis has done it again, not content with introducing a new range of shirts in April, at the May club meeting he displayed the latest edition to the club regalia: a new baseball cap.

The cap features the new enhanced logo, introduced on the club magnetic plaque and also used on the shirt. It has the very fashionable curved peek and is sure to be a popular collectors item among members.

The hat is available in a single color, khaki and one size-fits-all. Price is US$10 or Cdn$15. Get one at the next club meeting or call our regalia reps Elvin or Roli, their numbers are on page 2.

Correction

The price of the shirts in Canadian currency is $28, not as stated in last month's issue.

June is Busting Out all Over

In our region, according to the weather men, about 11 days of rain can be expected in May; not the best month therefore for planning events for a club that has a predominance of open top cars. June, however, is another matter altogether, and that is when the car enthusiast's season really starts to swing into action. Not only our own club, but those located around us are planning events in which W-DMGC members can participate..

There are regular get-togethers each month, that we don't have space for in our Calendar Events, and at which you are likely to find club members; and even if you don't, other car enthusiasts seem always to be welcoming. For example, each Monday evening from May through September, classic cars of all types can be found in downtown old Farmington, and the Triumph club have an open invitation to W-DMGC members to join their Summer Knights British Car only Cruise-in nights.

Until October British Summer Knights will be held on the third Wednesday of each month, that is the Wednesday following our monthly meeting, On even months the location is east-side at the Bravo Italian restaurant at 29047 Utica Road, Roseville, Michigan. Odd months they go west to the Local Color Brewing Company, 42705 Grand River Ave, Novi, Michigan.

Check the calendar regularly, events will be added month to month Owning an MG is twice the fun when you can share the experience with others

CARNIVAL OF CARS

Sunday June 9th marks the 39th Carnival of Cars held at the Ford Test Track in Utica, Michigan, on the west side of Van Dyke, north of 22 mile. The event features a Car Show, Swap Meet and Car Corral, in which clubs or cars of the same type can park together.

We received information too late for pre-registration, but more information concerning Windsor Detroit MG Club participation can be obtained from Ed Fleming (248) 349-3799.

The Can-Am Connection
is published 10 times a year by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, Inc.

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½ Page. $18/issue, $150/year

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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
The International Local Club

Rick Astley - Editor

Last month marked my first attempt at editing the monthly Newsletter and it reminded me of becoming a father, except this time I was the one giving birth and my wife was the one helping out. The gestation period was a lot shorter too; I had about 7 days notice between the board giving me the go-ahead and the complete Newsletter having to be at the printer. It happened that I had to go off on a business trip the day I took the CD-ROM to the printer so a few days later it was my wife Anne who gallantly collected the printed copies, labeled, stamped and mailed them all.

As the expectant father I called my wife as soon as she had the picked the copies up, asking her, metaphorically, to count fingers and toes. As it happened there were some minor problems that I hope will be fixed this time, particularly in some font translations, the most evident of which was in the masthead.

As you will see, we have added a little sparkle to the Newsletter this month, the center insert being in color and kindly donated by Dan Sokolowski. We hope to add more color in future months and to include features that fully exploit the benefits it provides us. Grateful thanks to both my wife and Dan for their help.

On another matter, do you remember those American Express ads, in the days when owning a charge card had some cachet and was not something you were offered 6 times a week in junk mail? It read, "Membership has its Privileges". I was reminded of that after placing a Classified Ad in last month's issue. I wanted a fuel gauge for my '70 MGB-GT, an item no longer available in either the Moss or Vic Brit catalogs. Within days of placing the ad I was offered 3 gauges by fellow club members, one of them bringing it to the last meeting for me and insisting on no monetary payment — but should I have time sometime I might help him out with a little electrical issue he has. Of course I will be delighted to help and take part in the full spirit of this club, one of camaraderie and generosity. Membership of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club certainly does has its privileges.

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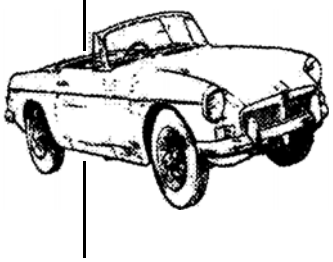

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Presidentially Speaking

By Dale Brown — Club President

The spring is off to a roaring start and Lise & I have been able to take in a lot of events already. The weekend of May 17th was our first major trip of the year and it was full of excitement. (not to mention full of rain, cold and a little sun).
We packed our MG to the brim with clothes, camping gear, oil, etc. and headed south down I –75 and around Toledo, picked up the Ohio Turnpike and then the Pennsylvania Turnpike and arrived at the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds 500 miles and 8 ½ wet hours later. The "B" ran great at highway speeds (except for an annoying gear shift rattle that I just can't seem to fix-any hints?).

We were there to attend the Carlisle import and Replica Nationals. Other club members that were gracious enough to show us the ropes, there were Jan and Jeff Zorn who came to vend and also Guy St. John who came to race. Although it was cold and wet, we had a great time. One of the things that is nice at these events is meeting people. We had met a group from the Montreal MG Club last year at MG 2001 in Minnesota and we had the pleasure of camping with them here at Carlisle. In fact they invited us to attend their Cluby Ralleye in Quebec City in July. Meeting other MG owners is part of all the fun at these events.

The Carlisle event is a host of imported cars set out by country. I have never ever seen over 200 Saabs, 200 Volvos etc. in one spot before. In total there must have been 800-900 cars of which about 200 were British ranging from MGs, Triumphs and Land Rovers. In fact one that went all around Africa was displayed in great fashion.

I even had a chance to watch Guy St. John check out the track for his eventual run.

We decided to leave Saturday evening and drive to Columbus Ohio for a British Car Show there on Sunday. Even though we arrived at a hotel at 2 in the morning, we got just enough sleep to get up at 6. Lise volunteered to help Jeff and Jan set up their booth while I went exploring and getting our car back in order for the show. I even got a chance to try out my new wind block that I bought from LBCARCO. A great investment that works fine.

This show was fantastic. A little cool but lots of sun. It took place at an outdoor shopping mall that was a great setting for the show. Check the calendar. The next events are closer to home – London Ontario and Fort Meigs near Toledo.
On some other topics, remember to order your new shirts from Elvin (and hats) and be sure to make it to Dearborn to try out a new venue for our June meeting. (The Brass Pointe)

So until next time, remember….

Safety MG Fast

Dale

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New Members in 2002

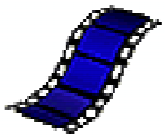
We welcome the following new members who have joined us so far this year: -

John & Marja Pere - St. Clair Beach, Ontario
1973 Red Midget
Gordy & Lois Cantwell - Livonia, Michigan
1980 White MGB
Tim Burston and son Brian - Windsor, Ontario
1958 - Red Austin Healey Sprite
Tom & Jean Parent - Shelby Twp., Michigan
Looking for a T series.
Brent Harden - Pinckney, Michigan
1974 Bracken MGB
Jeff Branch - Eastpointe, Michigan
1970 Primrose MGB-GT
Andrew Turner & Jenn MacNevin - Windsor, Ontario
1978 Yellow MGB
Steve Berman and his dog Lucky - Walled Lake, MI
1971 Green MGB
Dave & Gayle Clarke - Maidstone, Ontario
1972 Red MGB
Terry & Sue Schultz - Rochester Hills, MI
1967 White MGB

Video Library

A number of videos are available for club members to borrow, just a sample of which are listed below. See Chuck Wiley at the next meeting both to borrow and, by the way, to return all those that are well overdue.

Inside the Octagon
Engine Rebuild MGB 1800cc
Italian Job - Michael Caine
Rendezvous - Race in Paris
Guide to MG Maintenance
Winning - Paul Newman
Drive to Win - Mario Andretti
Behind the Wheel - Jackie Stewart
SU Carb' rebuild
BRM Story
MGB Film Library
MG RV8
Battle of the B's
World of Collector Cars
Mini - The Legend
Romance of Restoration



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— Tooling Around —

In benchmarking other car clubs, one of the things that we noticed was that some have purchased special tools that are required to be used only once in a blue moon These are the sort of tools that may not be an appropriate purchase for an individual member but that would have wide appeal to the membership in general. In the past our club has bought king-pin reamer, which is still available, but Guy St. John who is the designated keeper advises that the work involved in using it is just not worth the effort; outside services now doing a better overall job.

In contrast, I was recently able to borrow a carburetor reamer through a different club and was so impressed by it's ease of use, and the improvement — together with oversize throttle shafts — it made to the idling of my MGB that I have asked the board to consider buying one. In fact, with the help of Dan Sokolowski, we hope to save a lot of the production cost of this Newsletter, so I expect that I can soon further justify my request. The reamer can be used on MGA's and pre '72 MGB's and Midgets. That covers more than a third of members' cars.

If there are other tools members think would be useful purchases I am sure the board would be willing to look at all suggestions.

I have to admit that while I talk of what are or are not appropriate tools purchases for individuals, I have gone out and bought some odd items myself. I am willing to lend these to members rather than have them gather dust, and wonder if other members have similar little used and/or obscure items that they would lend out. Lenders and borrowers would have to make their own arrangements regarding any deposits or "what ifs" regarding breakage, damage or non-return.

Let me know if you want to participate and I will publish lists and contacts in a future issue of *Can Am Connection. Rick Astley*

New Club E-mail Address

The club has a new email address replacing our spam infested Hotmail account. It is:
wdmgcc@mgcars.org.uk

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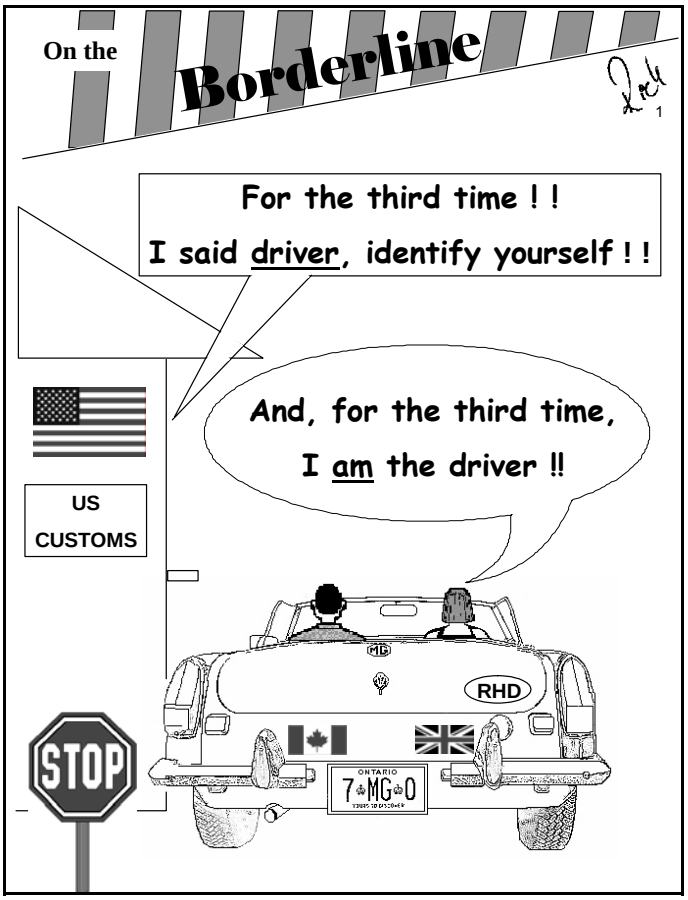

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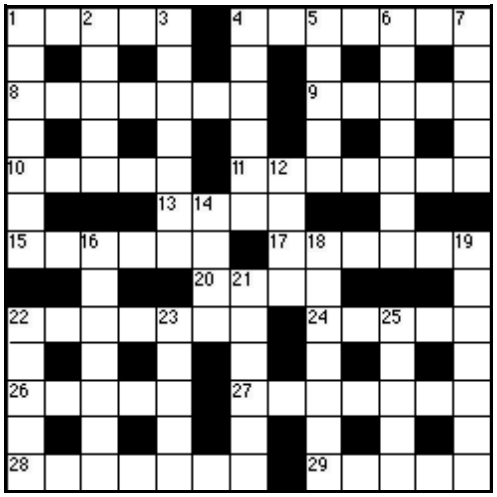

Across

1 & 13 across. Pirated wheel nuts? (5-4)
4 Common winter condition for us (7)
8 Whose column in Trafalgar Square? (7)
9 No condition for a concours (5)
10 Great Lakes fish (5)
11 Upholstery to die for (7)
13 See 1 across
15 Often a good thing (2-4)
17 The only way to have Fish 'n' Chips (6)
20 Smell from South of Lake Ontario (4)
22 A driver's must have (US) (7)
24 Agrarian (5)
26 Steamed rice dish (5)
27 Michigan's country (7)
28 The windy side (7)
29 Fun to drive bends (5)

Down

1 Regal steering component (4-3)
2 Car with sloppy pistons perhaps (5)
3 Expertise (4-3)
4 Own being (4)
5 2nd most populous country (5)
6 Range of hearing (7)
7 More timid (5)
12 Brand of fuel once (4)
14 Polish cars (4)
16 Streamlined bonnet (7)
18 Quebec rear (7)
19 U.S. and Canadian currency units (7)
21 Exhortation (6)
22 Where to wear your WDMGC badge (5)
23 Canada-US-Mexico cartel (5)
25 Put the top up when it _____ (5)

Solution on page 9.

Classified Advertisements

'78 MGB, White, rubber bumper roadster with overdrive, wire wheels, black interior with no tears, new top.
Engine completely rebuilt but not put back in car. Couldn't wait and bought a driver and never finished this one! It's up on blocks so bottom is easy to see. Asking $2,500. Also, hard top that needs some attention $150.
DaveBartilson@Comcast.Net for pictures or call 248-354-4447

1974 MGB For Sale. Complete Rebuilt Engine @ 7,000 miles, New Paint Job , Primrose Yellow, Electronic Ignition, Recorded Radiator & new thermostat, Electronic Fan w/ thermostat control, New Alternator, Rebuilt Starter, Gas shocks all 4 corners, New exhaust, New Tires (approx. 5,000 miles), New Rack & Pinion Asm., New Front King Pin & Axle Asm., New Fuel Pump & regulator, New Weber Carb Kit, New Battery, Rebuilt Brakes all 4 corners. Always stored in Garage.
$7,000
Dave 734-254-7954

British Car Posters & Ads
Jay Kollin 734-455-6949

Parts, Parts Parts. Front fenders for rubber bumper MGB $350 each or $600 for both. H.D. clutch kit $165. New LE steering wheel $100. 10 row oil cooler with hoses $100. Lowering kit F & R $70. Rear Spax shock kit for rubber bumper B $200. 2 Weber carbs, one early and one late $250. New radiator '77-'80 MGB $150. Peaco high performance exhaust kit with header $250. R & L doors $50 each. Indicator switch $45. 7/8" front sway bar used $ 50.
Jay Parks 313402-9448

MGB Parts 74 engine, 2 gearboxes (one overdrive, one not), rear axle, 4 wheels (3 with new tires), prop shaft, GT windows, misc parts from parting out cars. Fran Lewis

MGC Parts: Non overdrive gear box, rear axle, engine block, cylinder head, steel wire wheels. Fran Lewis 248-681-8420

'60 MGA 1600 Roadster, VIN GHNLB3089 NAMGAR # 4139. Excellent mechanically, paint & interior done 11 years ago, includes side curtains, tonneau cover & working period BMC AM radio. Also includes approx. $1,000 worth of new restoration parts, tools & manuals. $10,000
David Torby 248-788-1391

'73 Midget. Chrome Bumper, round wheel arch, 1275 cc. Rare Black Tulip Color. Won a couple of 3rd place awards at Twist and Battle of the Brits. $2,900 or offer
Ed Fleming 248-349-3799.

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Call Marcia Greiner 248-348-1473

MGB Front Fenders for early roadster, one LH, one RH. good condition. $125 each. Also wire wheels $15 each.
Dave 734-434-5990

'61 MGA Coupe. Rare car, complete but disassembled. good body ready for restoration. $4,000.
Fran Lewis 248-681-8420

'90 Range Rover. A classic for restoration or everyday driver. Red, AWD, power sun roof, leather seats. Some rust, 137,000 miles. Originally $8,000, but will consider any reasonable offer.
Fran Lewis 248-681-8420

'80 MGB. White with black top,. You know what you are getting with this original, unrestored beauty. A must see with only 24K, extras included. $8,750. 248-360-5986, ask for Matt.

''**80 MGB Roadster.** White with black top. one owner, virtually original, a must see with only 33K. $9500.
Doug Balsis 248-474-0470

1977 MGB For Sale Brooklands Green w/ Autumn Leaf interior. Beautiful Condition/wellmaintained. One of the best "Daily Driver" cars you'll find. 56,000 miles. Just completed tune-up, new front brakes, and a bumper-to bumper inspection by Guy St. John (WDMGC member). Weber DGV Carb. $8500
Eric Blauwaert (248)616-5706.

WANTED: front sway bar to fit a Mk1 Sprite. Midget sway bar should fit.
Call Tim at 519-969-9402 after 5 pm or e-mail jburston2@cogeco.ca

New Mexico MG's. I own a VW repair/restoration shop in in NM but have numerous MG's including a 78 B roadster, 73 B-GT an two 69 MGC-GT's, both of which run and are overdrive cars. I also have C roadster and two older B parts cars with the original clip on hard tops. We are in a dry climate so rust isn't much of a problem. Give a shout with needs or trades. These are my personal cars, not business.
Jack Quaif bughut@swpc.net

Notice to Advertisers

If your ad has been running for 3 months or more it may be removed next month. If the item is not sold and you wish to run the ad next month, please let the editor know.

Hobby, collector and other replenish-able items will run indefinitely as space permits.

2002 Calendar of Events **Bold Text Indicates W-DMGC Events**

June	
Sat. 1st	London Sports Car Club Annual Show - London, ON
Sat. 1st	The Brits are Back - Fort Washington, PA
Sun. 2nd	The British Return to Fort Meigs - Perrysburg, OH. Contact Dale Brown for possible caravanning
Sun. 9th	Carnival of Cars - Utica, MI Contact Ed Fleming 248-349-3799
Sun. 9th	Concours d'Elegance - Cincinnati, OH
Wed. 12th	**Monthly Meeting - Brass Pointe**
Sat. 15th - Sun. 16th	**Stratford Festival Philip Wiltshire will provide details**
July	
Sun. 7th	Mad Dogs & Englishmen - Hickory Corners, Kalamazoo, MI
Wed. 10th	**Monthly Meeting - Nisbet Inn**
Sun. 21st	Brits in the Park - Lindsay, ON
Sat. 27th	**Summer Picnic - Pelee Island, ON**
August	
Sat. 3rd	Concours in the Park - Meadow Brook, Rochester, MI
Sat. 3rd	British Car Day - Dayton, OH
Fri. 9th - Sun. 11th	The Roadster Factory Summer Party - Indiana, PA
Sat. 10th	**A Midsummer-Night's Rally**
Wed. 14th	**Monthly Meeting - TBD**
Thurs. 15th - Sun. 18th	**Abingdon Summer Party - Abingdon, IL**

August	Continued
Thurs. 22nd	**Summer Evening Run - Michigan**
September	
Sun. 8th	**Battle of the Brits - Freedom Hill Park, Sterling Heights, MI**
Wed. 11th	**Monthly Meeting - Nisbet Inn**
Sat. 14th - Sun. 15th	**Trip to Put-In Bay - Lake Erie, OH**
Thurs. 19th Sun. 22nd	British Invasion - Stowe, VT. Contact Dale Brown for possible caravanning
Fri. 20th - Sun. 22nd	Indy British Motor Days - Indianapolis, IN
TBD	**Lucas Night Rally**
October	
Wed. 9th	**Monthly Meeting - TBD**
Sun. 13th	**Fall Color Tour**
Sat. 26th	**Murder Mystery - Heritage Park, ON**
November	
Wed. 13th	**Monthly Meeting - Nisbet Inn**
December	
Wed. 11th	**Monthly Meeting - TBD Gift Exchange Night**
TBD	**Hibernation Party - Michigan**

TBD = To be determined

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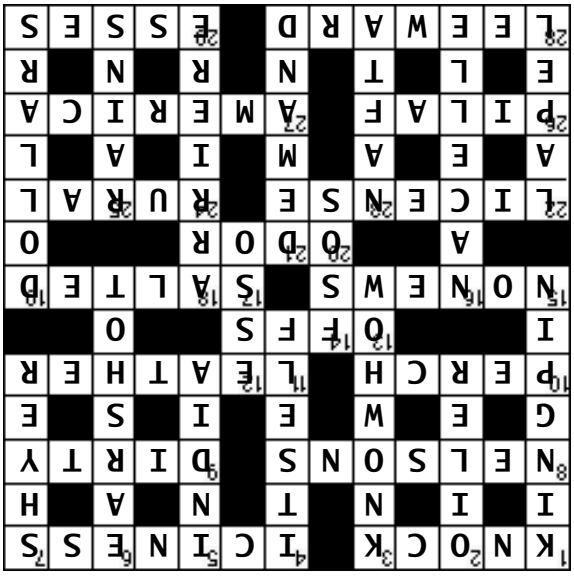
Solution to Crossword (see page 7)



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