The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 24, No. 10 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club December, 2004

Murder Mystery 2004

The day of the 30th of October dawned cloudy, but throughout the day the sky cleared and by the time Kathi and I were ready to leave for the Kildare House it was sunny and warm with a 30 km/h wind, perfect for one final top down drive for the 2004 season. When we arrived at the Kildare House the Walkerville Brewery delivery truck, a 1930s era Ford, was parked in front looking like it was just making a routine delivery. With no other indicators of what year it was, and the Kildare House's historic nature, it made for a perfect picture. (see back page)

The turnout was somewhat light, but eventually we filled a good portion of the upstairs room that the Kildare had reserved for us. After dinner and a few brews we headed out to Heritage Village, along the river for the first few miles, and then south to the village. By the time we got there it was dark, perfect atmosphere for some detective work.

Apparently we had a talented group this year since two of those present actually picked out the murderer, the Mayor! Well done by Bonnie Brown and Lorraine Ebergen. That is pretty well unheard of for our group. The rest of us? Well, it appears we weren't paying attention too well, since we had a wide array of incorrect guesses. Lorraine won the prize donated by the club from the draw of the correct answers.

A smaller group of us then headed to Quigbee's where we met up with John and Rosanne Brown who arrived in their TR6. I always feel good about supporting Heritage Village, since they receive very little Government funding, and events like this are critical to allow them to continue to do the great work that they do in preserving some of Essex County's history as well as their very nice transportation museum.

Ralph Poupard

Membership dues – new fee structure

As mentioned previously, the costs associated with printing and mailing the newsletter are going to put a severe strain on the club's treasury from now on – you can read the full details in Rick Astley's editorial in the November 2004 edition of Can-Am Connection.

As a result, we need to find ways to reduce costs and increase revenues. The club executive has been discussing this issue for some time, and at its last meeting, board members voted on a new fee structure to be implemented starting in 2005. Basically, dues will be increased for members wishing to receive a printed version of the newsletter. In other words, dues for members who elect to receive the newsletter electronically will remain at $25 US or $35 Cdn, whereas members who wish a printed version will pay dues of $30 US or $42 Cdn. If you would like to receive an electronic version of the newsletter, please let Rick know as soon as possible.

Welding Demonstration

The first of what we hope to be a number of winter 'Tech Sessions' was held November 23rd in Rochester.

Seven members made the journey on a dark night to see a demonstration of the Henrob 2000 welding system which has a number of claimed benefits over both conventional gas welding and even some of the very expensive and sophisticated electric systems. The Cobra Henrob welder is particularly useful for welding and cutting the thinner gauge metals we find in our cars with precision, little distortion, slag or hardening that makes finishing so difficult.

The session was attended by: Rick Astley, Greg & Juanita Fast, Mike Gedeon, Bill Larson, Harry Mac Lean, Ozzie Pillon, Doug Pohlod and Jack Renaud. If you have an idea for a tech session; one you would like to see, one you could teach or if you know of a technical demonstration that would interest members, please let the editor know.

Doug, Harry, Ozzie, Mike and Jack watch Henrob dealer Bob Oliver demonstrate the welder.

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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
The International Local Club

Rick Astley—Editor

Just a short editorial this month to make room for some official business that our Club Secretary , Lise Brown, has to report — and it's Lise I want to use this space to congratulate. Mike Chachich was kind enough to manage the original web-site after I found I did not have time to edit both that and the newsletter. Meanwhile, Lise has been working on a brand new club web-site with which she went live a few days ago. If you have the opportunity, check out the fresh new look and easy navigation. The web address is in the box on the left.

WDMGC Board Elections
Call for nominees/volunteers

A reminder to all that in accordance with article 16 of the WDMGC by-laws, elections must be held every year for the following elected positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

"*The term of office for any elected position shall be one year. The maximum number of consecutive terms a member may hold in an office effective January 1, 1995 is three (3). A member who has served three consecutive one-year terms in an office may run again for the same office after a one-year term break. That member may run immediately for a different elected office."*

Since the incumbent Treasurer has exceeded the three-year term limit, and the incumbent Secretary is in her third year, we absolutely need new people to fill these positions.

Please forward nominations as soon as possible to the secretary by phone, post or email (see details below), or submit them by hand at one of the next two club meetings. The form below is provided for your convenience.

The elections will take place at our Annual General Meeting, held in conjunction with the Hibernation Party, on February 12, 2005 at the Italian Epicure in Novi, Michigan (details on this event to follow soon.)

If you would like to participate in some other capacity, remember that volunteers are always needed for new and existing committees, offices or duties. Any help you can provide will be welcomed and much appreciated. You may contact any board member to find out where help is needed most.

Lise Brown
Secretary, WDMGC

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Email: dbrownmg@mnsi.net
Postal address:
1970 Loraine
Windsor, Ontario N8W 1P4
Canada

Club Elections – Nominations Form

President:
Nominated by :
Seconded by:

Vice-President:
Nominated by :
Seconded by:

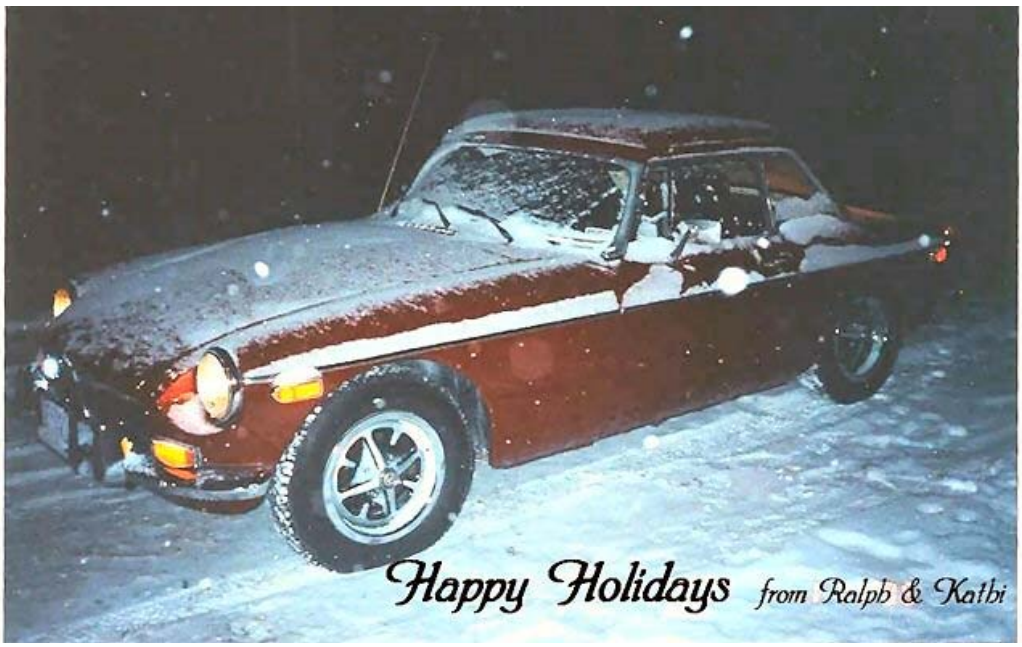
Treasurer:
Nominated by :
Seconded by:

Secretary:
Nominated by :
Seconded by:

Presidentially Speaking

By Ralph Poupard — Club President

They say time flies when you are having fun, and we must have been having fun this year, because I can't believe it is December already. Kathi and I have attended as many of the events that we could this season, and even managed to get two of our daughters out to a few events. We have put about 2,200 miles on the MGA and more than 7,000 miles on the MGB. The cars must like to be driven, since they were both trouble free for the year other than a few minor adjustments and the careful addition of some duct tape at the UML Summer Party Reunion.



More recently we took the MGA out to Leamington a few Sundays ago; probably its last ride until spring. The evening drive home was cool and clear. In the dark with the 1,500 cc engine humming along the highway, and no radio, it was almost like we were transported in time, back to 1957. The mechanical sounds and feel, exhaust note, the smell of leather, wind noise, and drafts were all there, accented by something that buzzes under the dash that I have yet to take care of. I have driven the MGB into November and had to press it into daily service recently when one of our modern cars developed a leak in the radiator. I put the hardtop on the B and may drive it on nice days until the salt hits the roads.

In a way winter can be a good thing. It gives you a chance to do some needed work on your British sportscar that you have been putting off. If you have something apart for 3 or 4 weeks it won't matter since you won't be missing out on any driving anyway. It also gives you a chance to catch up on some jobs around the house that you may have been too busy to tackle since spring because you were out having so much fun in your British Sportscar. (See first paragraph above) It's always best to take care of those jobs during the winter so you can cruise with a clear conscience next year, although that has never stopped us before!

The planning committee for our car show "British Marques in the Park" has been hard at work. Malden Park in Windsor has been chosen as the venue, and we are also having a Friday evening (June 24th) get together/ barbeque at the St. Clair College student residence. Check out our web page for more information and updates. www.mgcars.org.uk/wdmgcc/british_marques_in_the_park.htm

Thanks to Lise Brown, our club website is sporting a fresh new look. There will be frequent updates, so visit often to stay in tune. Lise has worked very many hours on this, and should be commended for her dedication to the club.

Rick Astley is investigating the possibility of posting the newsletter on our club website, accessed via a password. This is in response to a problem that a few members had with the .PDF file being too large for their E mailbox to hold. We have a 19" monitor at home and the newsletter looks fantastic at that large size. We have a dial up connection and had no problem downloading the file, although it took about 15 - 20 minutes. I printed it out on plain 8-1/2 X 11 paper with a standard colour ink cartridge, and it was clear with good quality pictures.

The Hibernation Party will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12th at the Italian Epicure in Novi MI. As mentioned in last month's newsletter we are looking for nominations from the membership for the club awards that will be handed out at the Hibernation Party. We also need nominations for the election of the club board members, namely: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The election will also take place at the Hibernation Party. Please forward all nominations as soon as possible to the secretary, Lise Brown or Rick Astley for the Club Awards and Lise Brown for nominations for elected board members, by phone, post, or E mail (refer to club roster for details), or submit them by hand at one of the next two club meetings. There is more information on this subject, as well as forms on the club website.

On behalf of Kathi and myself, and the board of the WDMGC we extend our best wishes to you and your family for a happy and safe Holiday Season.

Until next time

Safety MG Fast

Ralph

Club awards - Call for nominees

All right folks, the time has come for you to help determine this year's recipients of our coveted club awards. Please review the awards criteria, and indicate on the form provided the members whom you believe are most deserving of each award and why - just a few words are fine.

You can submit your nominations to Lise Brown or Rick Astley a number of ways: by phone, email, snail mail, or by bringing the completed forms to one of the next two club meetings. Please refer to the club roster for the telephone numbers and relevant addresses. **The deadline for submissions is January 12, 2005**.

As always, the awards will be presented at the Hibernation Party, which this year will be held on Saturday February 12, 2005 at the Italian Epicure in Novi, Michigan – more details on this event will follow soon.

I sincerely hope you have enjoyed the numerous events that were on our calendar this season, and that you kept your eyes and ears open for possible candidates for this year's awards.

Lise Brown
Secretary

Award Nominees 2004

Please provide your nominations, with the reason for your choice, for one or more of the following awards

Founders Award: Given to the member(s) who has contributed the most to the club over the past year. This person or persons are the most valuable members of the club. They have contributed above and beyond anyone else in the club.

Rookie of the Year: Given to the new member(s) who has contributed the most to the club over the past year. "New member" shall be defined as having joined the club since September 1 of the previous year.

Navigator of the Year: Given to the "Travelling Companion" or "Navigator" who has contributed the most to the club over the past year.

Hard Luck Award: Given to the member who has had the most problems with his/her British car during the past year (or suffered a notable loss or hardship in that regard.)

Lucky Lucas Award: Given to the member who has had the most electrical problems with his/her British car during the past year (or a combination of electrical and general malfunction.)

50/50 Cash Draw winner November

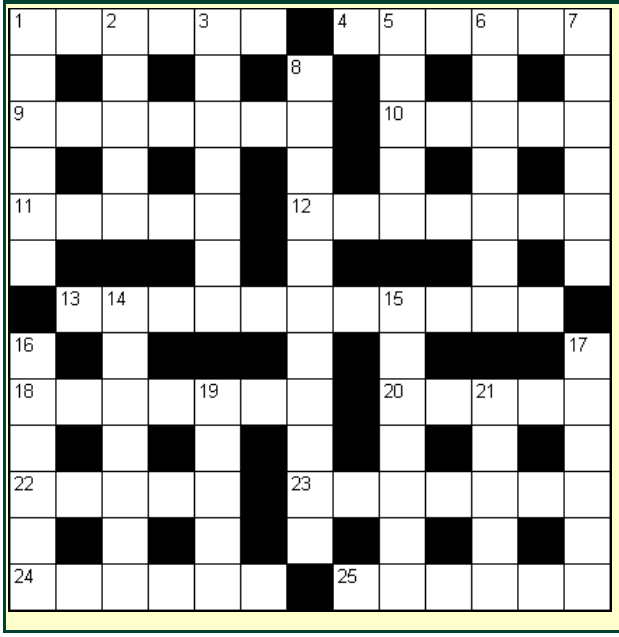
Congratulations to **Anne Astley**, winner of our 50/50 cash draw, held at the November club meeting at the Nisbet Inn. Anne's winnings totaled **$44 Cdn and $26 US**. The next draw will be on Dec 8 at the Brass Point.

Just a reminder, tickets are $1 each or 3 for $2, and the winner gets half of the night's receipts plus half the pot. The other half is then added to the amount collected at the following meeting thus increasing the amount to be won each month. So have your cash ready when you come to the next meeting; you could be the next lucky winner.

Winners to date:
September: Dave Torby - $22 Cdn
October: Jack Renaud - $23 US, $10 Cdn
November: Anne Astley - $44 Cdn, $26 US

Lise Brown

The Windsor - Detroit MG Club Crossword



Across

1 Specify distinctly
4 Popular name for a VW
8 Relative of “Tin Worm” ? (4-3)
10 More bitterly cold
11 Brake assist mechanism
12 Break for fuel and service (4-4)
13 New York auto-racing track (7-4)
18 Offer more than a thing is worth
20 Goodnight girl
22 GM Brand
23 Rubber fender protector (3-4)
24 Resembling a stellar object
25 Strapped in

Down

1 Most parched
2 Flat base
3 County home of Lotus
5 Decree
6 Prickly Scottish symbol
7 MG’s continent
8 Brake in a short distance (4-2-1-4)
14 Austin model, aka 1100 in UK
15 Heated cooking surface
16 Thinks it’s unlikely
17 Blew the horn
19 BSA rider for one
21 Lotus model

Solution below

On the Borderline

This month’s
On the Borderline by

Jack Renaud

The Windsor-Detroit MG Club Welcomes its Newest Member

“Bill & Lois Fairman - Royal Oak, Michigan
1970 Green MGB

CARS AND MOTORCYCLES WANTED

AN ABSOLUTELY SERIOUS BUYER wants any MG, Jaguar, Austin-Healey, Morgan, Triumph, 356,190SL, Alpha Romeo, Riley, Land-Rover, Singer, also Pre-war and other interesting European cars and vintage motorcycles.

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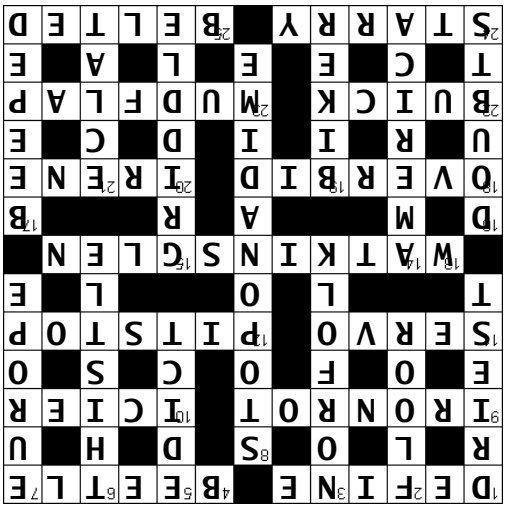


DECEMBER MEETING IS GIFT EXCHANGE NIGHT

As usual, the December monthly meeting will be a little special in that we will be exchanging gifts, but having plenty of fun doing it.

Members wishing to participate should bring a gift of value between about $5 and $8 US, or $7.50 to $12 Canadian and wrap it, disguising if necessary, so that its contents are not obvious. Only if the gift is gender specific should it be marked "His" or "Hers" as appropriate. Gifts tend to be car related, but do not have to be. Those bringing gifts will be given a raffle ticket, the other half of which goes into a hat.

A number is drawn from the hat and the person having the matching ticket gets to choose a gift from under the tree. What they get is pot luck, bigger not necessarily meaning better. Now here's the fun part. All subsequent members whose numbers are drawn can take their chances and get a gift from the tree, or they can "steal" any one of the gifts already selected and unwrapped by another member. The member who lost the gift must then take another gift from the tree. Just because a gift was "stolen" from another member does not insure that it is kept, a person whose number is called later may steal it again. Obviously, in this raffle, it is better to have the last number drawn — and the last laugh too.

Stratford Festival 2005

Philip Wiltshire has once again been busy organizing our annual trip to the Stratford Festival. June 18th next year, we will be seeing "Hello Dolly".

"Hello Dolly" is the musical story of Dolly Gallagher. When millionaire Horace Vandergelder hires flamboyant matchmaker Dolly Gallagher Levi to find him a wife, it doesn't take long for Dolly to find the perfect candidate - herself. Romance, and merriment abound, along with such memorable musical numbers as "before the parade passes by" and the show-stopping title song.

The format is identical to that in previous years; we will travel to Stratford on Saturday and then have dinner at the Westover Inn. The following day after breakfast on the terrace, we will head back to the west coast for a Sunday afternoon drive south to Detroit and Windsor.

Members wishing to take part should call Philip on (248) 676 0986 or e-mail him at pwiltshire@comcast.net. Those in-the-know have learned that it's first come — best seats.

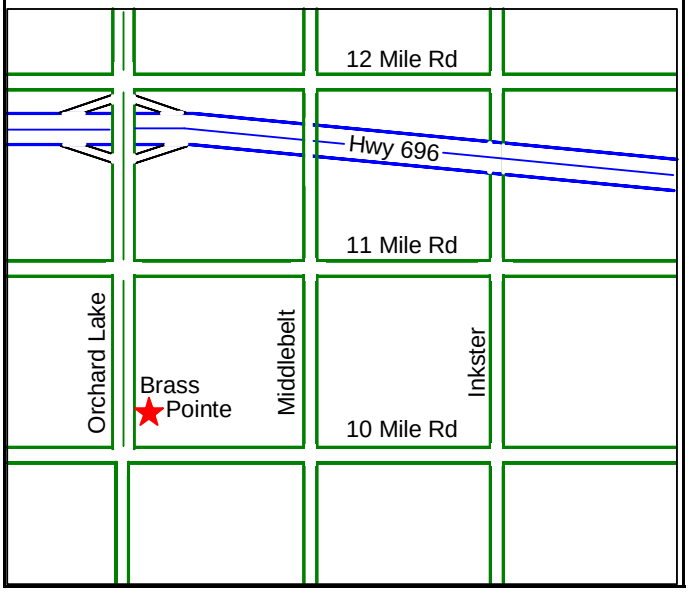
Calendar of Events

■ - Windsor-Detroit MG Club Event
☐ - organized participation by WDMGC members

December		
■	Wed. 8th	Monthly Meeting - Brass Pointe Gift Exchange Night
January		
■	Wed. 12th	Monthly Meeting - Nisbet Inn
February		
■	Wed. 9th	Monthly Meeting - Brass Pointe
■	Sat. 12th	Hibernation Party
March		
■	Wed. 9th	Monthly Meeting - Nisbet Inn
April		
■	Wed. 13th	Monthly Meeting - Nisbet Inn
☐	Sun. 17th	Ancaster All-British Flea Market - Ancaster, ON
☐	TBA	Kimber Birthday Bash Lancing, Michigan

December Meeting

December 8th — Brass Pointe Restaurant
24234 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan



Classified Advertisements

1977 MGB Parts. Dash with gauges, perfect condition fits 77-80: $150. Luggage rack, nice condition: $35. New rocker panels fit all years: $30 each. Engine, runs great: $350.
Chuck Wiley 734 461-9384

1971 Midget Parts. Good 1200 engine/trans, hood, doors, deck lid, windshield frame, rear axle, and a clear title.
$250 or best offer.
Jason Hogan 734 675-0982 janethogan@sbcglobal.net

1974 MG Midget 1275 cc Triple Black. Professionally appraised at 79,600 miles $4,000. Best offer.
Doug Beauchene 248 798-6968

1966 MGB parts. Black vinyl tonneau cover, good condition, no tears, zippers work .Duplicate came with the car - fits only vehicle without roll bar. Set of MG mud flaps still in package - MG logo on back. Both parts may fit other years or models. I would prefer to swap them for something rather than sell them
Paul Lester 248 408-6961

British Car Repair and Maintenance. North Oakland County area. Complete service available. Very reasonable. Also available for computer repairs and virus scans.
Gordon Bird 248-391-2395. Email. gobird@comcast.net

1974½ MGB-GT teal blue with only 22,000 miles. $7,000
Location Ann Arbor
Call Ron 734 662-4075

1960 MGA Red. Very good condition. New battery, nearly new clutch. $13,000 or near offer.
George Uridge 248 474-6392

1975 MGB, Tahiti Blue/Black interior; engine rebuilt by John Twist. $7,500.
Rich Wagner 248 624-9573

1978 MGB, dark brown/tan top, tonneau, car cover, excellent appearance and mechanical condition, 2nd place winner in class 2 yrs at Battle of the Brits, must be seen to appreciate. Stored in barn. Drive away for $9,950. Farmington Hills, MI.
Only serious buyers- contact vsnider@mbia.org

1950 MG TD Original, fair condition, runs and drives very well. Solid body and frame. All electrical works. Has new brake pads, brake lines and re-built brake cylinders. Also new tires, fuel pump, flywheel ring gear, clutch pad, and battery. Needs canvas, interior, paint and TLC. Has not been regularly driven since 1967. Garage kept. $5,500. Davison, Michigan. Call Dave at 810 658-3732 after 4 pm or e-mail dreid@gfn.org. I can provide pictures if interested.

Please let us know if for any reason you don't want your classified ad to run in future issues. Please also let us know if your ad has been running for 3 months and you want it to continue to appear, as it may otherwise be removed to make room for later entries.
Contact the editor if you wish to respond to an e-mail-only contact, but have no access yourself.

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As members gathered in their MGs at the Kildare House in Windsor for the Murder Mystery event, Ralph Poupard took the opportunity to take this picture with the pub looking much as it must have done years before many of the cars first hit the road.

Windsor-Detroit MG Club
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Farmington Hills, MI 48334 USA

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