The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 28, No. 9 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club October 2006

BATTLE OF THE BRITS

By Elvin Davis

The Windsor-Detroit MG Club had an excellent turnout for the event. We had a total of 39 cars. 20 MGBs , 8 T cars, 6 MGAs, and 1 MGC. 9 members came without their cars, for a total of 66 Windsor-Detroit club members. We also corralled 3 or 4 new members.

Here are all the folks that made our club proud, and the picture below, courtesy of Rick Astley, shows you some of our members who walked away with awards. Attending the event were:

Rick and Anne Astley, Matt Bade, George and Helen Barton, Gordie Bird, Jeff Branch, Bryan, Dale, Steve, John and Nancy Brown, Tom Burke, Doug and Ailene Butcher, Jim Cox, Graham Creswick, Elvin and Janet Davis, Mike Dederian, Jerry DesRosiers, Chuck and Karen Fehl, Ron Garant, Mick Gedeon, Jim and Ricci George, Sonny Graat, Ted and Susan Hight, Steve and Cathy Holliday, Marty Hunt, Al and Evie Kozleski, Sandy Kuivenhoven, Bill Larson, Bob Leinen, Fran Lewis, Eric and Mary Marshall, Gary and Roberta Odor, Tom Parant, Shari Pelic, Doug Pohlod, Bruce Read, Bill Reeves, Dave and Teresa Ritter, Tim and Jan Rollin, Bret Shelley, Susan and Dave Snyder, Guy St John, Colin Stafford, Steve and Ruth Swarin, Scott Turner, Greg Walker, Kevin Wolfe, John Woodall, John Zajac, Jeff and Jan Zorn.

Battle of the Brits — Some of the WDMGC Victors

Some of the club members who won awards at the Battle of the Brits are pictured with their trophies are pictured from left to right: Gordon Wallace, Tim Burston, Gary Oder, Fran Lewis, Dale Brown, Greg Walker, Tom Parent, Paul Blunt and Jim George. Others winners, not shown were Bob Leinen and Doug Butcher.

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E-mail
wdmgcc@mgcars.org.uk

Website
www.mgcars.org.uk/wdmgcc/

President
Jeff Zorn
248-489-1855

Vice President
Cathy Holliday
248-693-1382

Treasurer
Matt Bade
248-683-1210

Secretary
Scott Turner
519-254-9510

Webmaster
Lise Brown
lise@wdmgc.com
519-258-5987

Membership
Rick Astley
28404 South Harwich Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-737-1978
Fax: 248-538-8339
rick@wdmgc.com

Newsletter Editor
Ellen Stuban
ellen@wdmgc.com
248-668-8438

Video Librarian
Tom Newton
313-562-2377

Regalia
Canada: Roli Sylvestre
519-969-2739
U.S.A.: Elvin Davis Jr.
248-960-2296

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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club

Ellen Stuban — Editor

Fall Colour Tour
Saturday, October 14th

Hosted by Rich and Adrienne Wagner

Yep, it's that time again and judging by the leaves, Winter is fast approaching. There's still time for one more long drive in the country and both a Cider Mill & fine dinning at the "Zucky Lake Tavern" is on the ticket for this year's 100 mile Colour Tour. Hope you can join us. Bring a jacket, but don't forget the sunglasses! Here's the familiar details.

Meet at the usual place 8 Mile & Haggerty Meijer
Be there at noon for a photo op and drivers meeting at 12:30 PM
Cars should begin rolling by 1:00 PM
This will ensure plenty of time for both the cider stop and dinner so members can get started for home before dark. As always, those wanting to only drive part of the way are welcomed to come along and dinner is optional, although you don't know what you're missing.

Have you seen this?

There's a TV ad currently running showing a man that forgets everything going on around him, the dog eating out of the fridge, water overflowing from the tub, all because he's enamored with his Panasonic Plasma Flat Screen TV. The picture at right, courtesy of Rich Wagner, shows that he was in the middle of waxing his MGB and left it sitting in the drive with the electric waxer running. **How silly...we all know that our MGs are more important that a Flat Screen HDTV, right? Right? No really, right???**

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ellen@wdmgc.com
Ellen Stuban, Editor
Can-Am Connection
Submissions must arrive by the 21st of the month to ensure publication in the next issue.

Presidentially Speaking

By Jeff Zorn — Club President

Fall is here and there is only about a good month left for driving our little beauties. It seems like only yesterday that the season began. Could it be as we get older the time just goes faster? I think so. Speaking of getting older got a cute picture in my email today from a LBC friend that knows I am a "biker" now and that we have a place in Florida. Guess he could not resist the pun on when Jan and I are much, much older and retired, living in what he calls the Promised Land.

Florida Biker and his Babe!

I missed the September meeting since Jan and I were off to Stowe, VT for the British Invasion which had a record turnout of just about 700 cars. Of course this is NO comparison to that fine Canadian show that many of our fellow club members went to in Bronte Park, which from what I have heard hosted close to 1400 LBC's. Now that is a turn out.!

Cathy did a great job filing in for me at the meeting it has been said and the turnout was very good. Guess the DH has done a wonderful turn around. Our next board meeting will be Wednesday, October 4th at the DH at 7PM. Members are always invited to observe. I am sure the major topic will be the Hibernation Party for 2007.

This and next month will be a grueling period for us as Jan and I have travel so far to Portland, OR., Battle of the Brits (now that was a record turnout of about 375 LBC's and a short drive for us), then to Stowe, Indy British Says and MG on the Rocks in Maryland. October is about the same with four more events that we will be at and one last one in November.

The meeting for October will be at the Brass Pointe at 6:30PM for dinner and drinks and the meeting will start about 7:30PM. The date is the 11th. If you know of someone that has not been to a meeting ask them to come, let's have a great turnout and greet the pumpkin. I hear there will be some special surprises at this meeting and costumes are optional! See you there.

A Night at the Races

November 11th, 6:00 pm

Treat yourself to a Saturday night of fun at Northville Downs harness racing track. For $25.00 (US) per person we can enjoy:

- Entrance to the track
- Live harness racing.
- Our own reserved table in the club house.
- All you can eat buffet. (Carved top round of beef, 3 hot entrées, potato & vegetable, full salad bar, cheese tray, relish tray, rolls & butter, dessert table, coffee or tea).
- A race named in honor of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club.
- Salute and welcome by the track announcer.
- Our club name up in lights on the infield matrix display.
- All taxes and gratuities included. (Drinks and bets extra).

Pre booking is necessary. Deadline is November 3rd. Please get checks, payable the Windsor-Detroit MG Club to either:

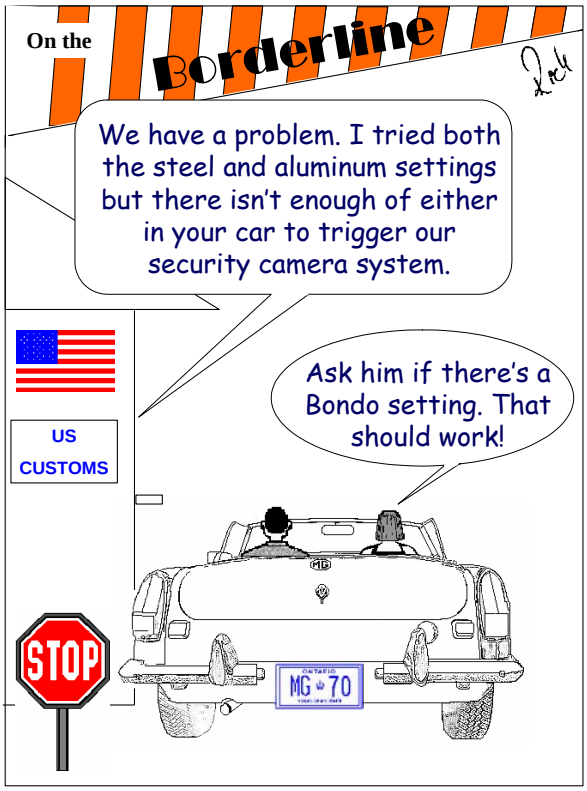
Anne Astley, 28404 South Harwich Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248-737-1978)

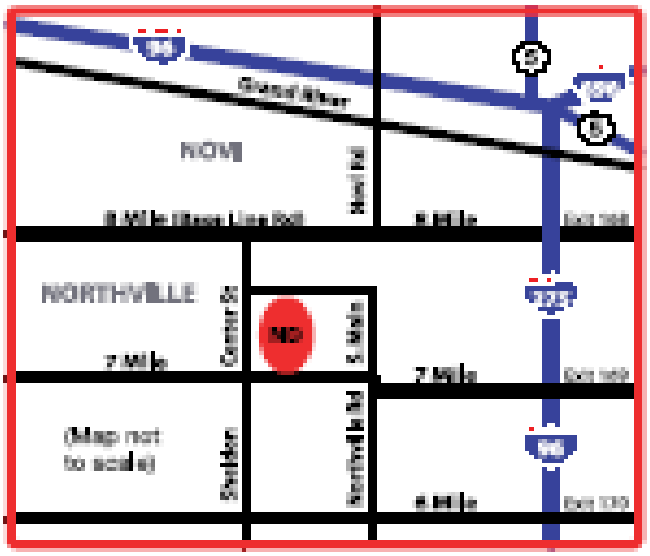
or

Lise Brown, 1970 Loraine Ave., Windsor, Ontario N8W 1P4 (519-258-5987)

Northville Downs is at: 301 South Center St, Northville. Phone **248-349-0600.**

The location is on the NE corner of 7 mile Road and Centre Street, 3.5 miles west of I-275.





The Lake District Sunday Drive A.K.A.
The Huron River & English Tiffin Run, Sunday October 24th 2006

The idea of finishing a WDMGC event at "All Things UK" in Milford has been floating around for some time. There was a suitable space in the '06 Calendar of Events, so the Wiltshire's and Butcher's decided to try and fill the gap.

Our original idea was to map a route around some of the many lakes in Oakland County, but as we put the route together, it was clear that we had scope drift and that the Huron River and smooth tree-canopied curvy roads would be the mainstay of the run to Tea in Milford.

The final route was finished at just less than 50 miles (90 minutes) and was routed from Ann Arbor, up along the scenic Huron River Drive route, through Hamburg, touching Brighton and approaching Milford from the west via the perimeter of the GM Proving Ground.

So to Event Day Sunday. We had a number of firsts; the first weekend of Autumn (sorry, Fall), the first weekend where petrol was hovering back around $2 per gallon, the first touches of Fall color in the trees, some new members participating and a new event.

We had 12 cars ready and waiting at the Ann-Arbor start, including an MGA (top down), Magnette, MGB's, BGT's and a CGT. The weather forecast was predicted as a very autumnal weather mix of rain and sun. It had rained earlier in the day, but we were very lucky with no rain at all and dry roads.

We all arrived safely at "All Things UK". The shop was open especially for us and we filled it completely.

How Many Pistons do You Own?

Rick Astley

My friend of some 30 years, Nic Houslip who lives near Birmingham, England, and I no longer have the opportunity to get together very often, but we stay in touch by e-mail. Nic keeps me up-to-date with his vehicle collection and I thought WDMGC members might be interested in learning what a British collector chooses to buy.

His latest acquisition is an MG RV8. For those not familiar with this car it was a 1992 Rover MGB resurrection using the Rover aluminum V8 engine that originated as the Buick 215 but raised to 4 liter or 245 cu in, fuel injected and mated with a Rover LT77 5-speed transmission. Performance is impressive, with its 190 bhp the 0-60 mph acceleration is 5.9 seconds. However, it still shared many features of the original MGB, including the rear leaf spring suspension and it was replaced by the all new mid-engine MGF in 1995.

The RV8 is now much sought after and is a good investment in the UK to the extent that many will pay the price of importing RHD models back from Japan and Australia. These cars have the added bonus of having A/C installed.

If the RV8 is a little noisy for you, but you don't want to sacrifice acceleration, Nic's 1990 Bentley Turbo R may be more your cup of tea. It has a 6.75L Turbo V8 based on a GM Big block that gives ~365 BHP. For a car weighing 5,500 lbs it still does 0-60 in 6.5 seconds. It does this he says with so silently that all you can hear is the sucking sound as the fuel tank empties! Apparently it has surprised some local lads in their Golf GTi's .

The picture from the rear seat seems to show that the car doesn't have much more room there than my MGB-GT, but I am guessing that there is rather more padding in the seats and the cocktails make it much more bearable. I can see the truth in Nic's comment that several cow and trees must have been sacrificed to build it.

These cars have become quite affordable because the cost of ownership is so high: fuel, spares and servicing costs and the space required to keep such a car frightening many Brits off. Things have improved, however, since VW acquired Bentley, they have lowered service and parts prices as an encouragement toward preservation.

One amusing thing Nic does is count all the cubic capacity and pistons he owns. Excluding garden equipment he is up to 22,698cc and 62 pistons.

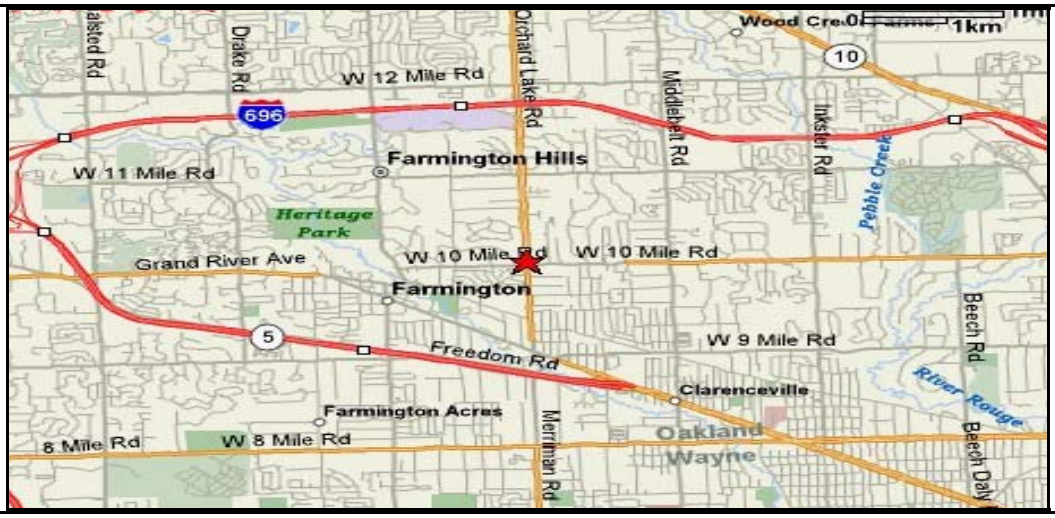
His complete collection is:

1 Ford Cougar
1 Ford Mondeo
1 Bentley Turbo R
1 MG RV8
1 BSA Gold Rocket GS
2 Honda Gold Wing
3 Honda CBX 1000
1 Silk 700S
1 Vincent Rapide
2 Velocette LE

Those club members also into bikes will see some interesting items there but that's a subject I'm not qualified to write about.

October Meeting

Wednesday, October 11
Brass Pointe Restaurant
24234 Orchard Lake Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan



November Meeting

Wednesday, November 8
The Dominion House Tavern
3140 Sandwich Street
Windsor, ON Canada

For those coming from the US, here are directions on how to get there via the Ambassador Bridge:

- When approaching customs and immigration, try to get to one of the booths on the far right; you will be making a quick right turn afterwards.
- Immediately after passing through customs (labeled Toll Booth on the map), proceed to the far right and take the first exit, which is a sharp right-hand U-turn onto Huron Church Rd. (this exit is not evident on the map but is within 50 ft of the customs booths). You're now heading north toward the river.
- Continue through to the 2nd set of lights and turn left onto University Ave. (This will be about ½ mile from where you turned onto Huron Church from the bridge).
- Proceed to the stop sign and turn left onto Sandwich St., heading west.
- Just after a long s-curve you'll see a white house on your right with a large painted sign that reads Bake Shoppe; the DH is the very next building, with the parking lot entrance on the far side or west side of the tavern. (The DH is less that a mile from the where you exited the bridge.)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

KARSTEN & SARA BEKEMEIER
JACKSON, MI
1970 MGB YELLOW

DIANE & BRAD BUSHEY
BLENHEIM, ON
1969 MGB GREEN

DICK KUBIT & SHARON HADDEN
BRIGHTON, MI
1980 MGB WHITE

JOHN BOWEN & KIM PLUMB
HARRISON TWP, MI
1959 MGA BLACK
1975 MGB WHITE

PAUL & PAULINE BLUNT
PINCKNEY, MI
1980 MGB-LE BLACK
2002 JAGUAR XK8 BRG ■

CALLING NEW MEMBERS

Are you new to the club? Haven't been to a meeting, yet? Well now's the time to start getting active. To help you out, we've got a deal for you. Let any of the Board Members know if this is your 1st meeting and we've got a free gift waiting for you! Now I know you're excited, but this is limited to one per family. We'll be looking for you at the next meeting.

Calendar of Events

■ - Windsor-Detroit MG Club Event ☐ - Organized participation by W-D MGC members

OCTOBER 2006

■ Wed 4 **Board Meeting**
Dominion House Tavern
Windsor, ON

■ Wed 11 **Monthly Meeting** - Brass Pointe
Farmington Hills, MI

■ Sat 14 Fall Color Tour

☐ TBA Obsolete Automotive Garage Sale
Point Edward, ON

☐ Sat. 14 America's Reliability Run
Sun. 15 Ohio

NOVEMBER 2006

■ Wed 8 **Monthly Meeting** - Dominion House Tavern
Windsor, ON

■ Sat 11 A Night At The Races - Northville, MI
Northville Downs Harness Race Track

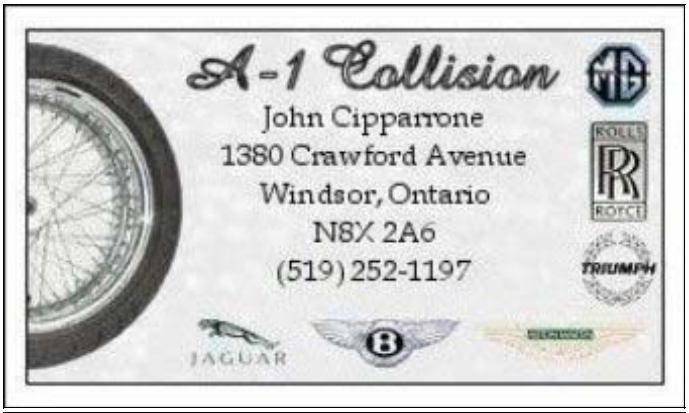
DECEMBER 2006

■ Wed 13 **Monthly Meeting** - Brass Pointe
Farmington Hills, MI

HAVE YOU GOT A CREATIVE SIDE?

If you've got the creative bug and want to share it with us, we want you. Send any articles or pictures you'd like to see in the newsletter to the editor - Ellen Stuban at ellen@wdmgc.com. If your item is used in the newsletter, we'll give you 3 free 50/50 tickets.

(You must be present at the meeting to receive the tickets.)



EnjoyClassicCars.com

A Regional Website for the Classic Car Enthusiast

If you have access to the Internet, check out this web site and become part of the circle. The site is run by MG and Italian car enthusiast Peter Pleitner who is a professor in the vehicle restoration portion of Washtenaw Community College and who facilitates our annual trip to Rivertech

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Saturday By Appointment

624 Carpenter Avenue
Northville, Michigan, 48147

WDMGC member Guy St. John, owner of Guy's Garage in Northville, would like to remind you ,that along with usual fall hibernation ritual for your LBC*, it's a good time to consider taking care of some of those annoying little, (sometimes big), problems that developed over the driving season. It's really no fun to wait all winter for that first top down spring day, only to find out she won't start, stay running, shift, stop, well you get the picture…

If you are considering major work, I.e. Engine rebuild, Clutch, Suspension, Electrical, Seats & Interiors, you need to call early for scheduling, as garage space is limited. A quick oil and filter change, fluid check, lube, and once over can usually be done in one day. So call anytime 248 349-3649 for your appointment.

*** oil and filter change**
*** check antifreeze**
*** battery disconnect or removal**
*** Sta-Bil in a full gas tank**

Classified Advertisements

1970 MGB, white, for sale in Detroit area. Mechanically in excellent condition and body and interior in good to very good condition. Dayton wheels. Relatively new top and tonneau. Approximately 5,000 miles on "completely" rebuilt engine. Pictures available on request. Email John at jdhertz@hertzbergpc.com, or call my office at 248-540-3200 if you are interested."

1966 MGB parts Black vinyl tonneau cover - never used - no fasteners. Fits roadster with no roll bar and no headrests. - cost: buy me a beer at the next meeting
Set of MG mudflaps - still in the dusty packaging - cost : buy me a second beer
Hardtop - needs paint and hardware (possibly seals too)
Fair condition, no cracks or delamination - $100 Pictures available
e-mail Paul on pgl@dcx.com

1978 MGB
78,000 miles very nice - new fenders, rockers, black Deltron paint, leather interior, cloth top, Moss lowering kit, downdraft weber carb, stainless exhaust, alloy wheels, [over $8000 in parts], $7,500. Dave Reed 586-781-2716

1971 MG Midget
Red -New convertible top. Interior is in good condition. Has extra doors and windshield. Starts, Runs, Drives Great! Can email pictures on request.
$2,000 OBO
Call Brian at 586-665-1417

Trailer, flat bed with ramps, 6.8 wide X 15 8 inches off ground, ideal for MG or Midget. New tires came with a car and I don't need it anymore.$500.00 Call for details or pictures. Ron Pruette 248-821-8670 email: rpsurfr@flash.net

Wanted. Laycock LH Overdrive. Either full transmission or O/D unit alone. For 1980 MGB.
Perry Burford 519-737-6424 pburford@sympatico.ca

1969 MGB Rds.
Originally British Racing Green / black interior
Wire wheels about 65,000 org miles
In storage since 1986
Some reparable floor rust rest of the car is excellent
Very complete car missing no parts
Also over $1000 worth of new parts included, carbs, brakes, radiator, shocks, and Lucas Hi performance ignition system, shocks
Price for all $1,500 USD-------Also rubber nose for late MGB Great condition bought back in 1988 to use but never did (is used) $200
I can be reached at 586-506-1732

1974 1/2 MG roadster. White, Mini Lite wheels, new carpet, good driver. $4500. Contact Elvin.at ejdavis2@peoplepc.com.
Home: 248-960-2296 cell phone: 248-613-5939

1967 MGB Very nice condition, runs great $8,000
Call Bill Larson 248-656-4992

1975 Midget. 88,000 miles, overall in very good condition. Appraised at $8,200. This is a solid car with no rust, the frame is straight, and paint original (olive) with dealer sticker intact. Includes a tonneau cover. Beauty rings, luggage rack, and new tires added by the current owner. Top needs to be stitched. Asking $6500, make an offer on this original vintage vehicle. Call Greg (905) 573-3572 (Hamilton, Ontario).

MG-B front fenders, 1-RH, 1-LH, early roadster, good condition $125/ea; also many other MG-B parts
Dave 734-434-5990

1975 MGB 50th Anniversary edition for parts, Damask Red, 72,000 miles, not running. Pictures available. $500 obo.
Jeff Branch 586-779-0663, MGBranch@wowway.com

1956 MG Maganet; parts car. $600. obo. Call Gary 989-845-3353

WANTED: I want to be an MBG owner! Looking for a 73-74 MBG Roadster in the Midwest area- will drive for the right car. Must be red color, driveable, and body in good condition. Flexible on interior and drive train. Will give it TLC and a good home.
Finders Fee of $100 paid to first referral that result in a successful purchase. Ed Boyer, Mattawan, MI 269-668-7612
Email: edmaddog3@gmail.com

1969 MGB-GT. Red California car, has never been driven in salt or snow. No frame or body rust; no leaks; clean interior, no rips; retractable belts; new headliner; new radiator core. Need to sell because of limited space at new Detroit home. $5,000.
Bill Sycalik. 571-216-6147

1966 Midget. Black/white. Good condition.
Moving to Florida. Must sell. Car located in S.E. Michigan.
$4,000 o.b.o.
Mike Sowards 313-383-8156 or 313-715-0817

1979 MGB roadster V8 conversion. California base car. 215 Buick engine, 4 speed GM 700R4 auto-transmission. Metallic dark green. All conversion parts new from D&D. An opportunity to get into a great V8 for less than you could do it yourself. Located in Oxford, MI.
$10,000. Call Earl Caron 248-628-2002 (evenings).

Wanted: Lock assembly and keys for MGB with locking steering wheel on the column. Contact Mike Derderian at 586-731-4434, or email leadfoot(at)wideopenwest.com

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

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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Mercedes 190-220-230-250-280 SL
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Phone: 905-729-1035

OCTOBER 11, 2006 MEETING

In honor of Halloween, members attending the meeting are invited to participate in the Halloween Hat Contest

Prizes will be awarded for the best hat—Costumes Optional
Halloween Treats, too!

Hope to see you there.

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